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The Guardian INTERNATIONAL

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NEWSPAPER OF THE YEAR 46,634

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Bronzed off with Britain's golden boys

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8-baby woman hit by £1/2m ban

Authority refuses to pay for top specialist

Heleen Nowicka

Mandy Allwood, the woman who is carrying eight foetuses, was involved in fresh controversy yesterday when her local health authority said it would not pay the £500,000 needed for her maternity care by a top London specialist.

would be better off in London in terms of expertise and equipment. She believes being treated by him is best for her and the babies.

Stuart Kuttner, managing editor of the News of the World, which has bought the exclusive rights to Ms Allwood's story for a reported £1 million, said: "Details of Ms Allwood's medical arrangements and maternity care are a matter for her and the appropriate medical authorities and doctors responsible for her well-being."

Mike Deakin, Solihull's consultant in public health medicine, said the treatment would cost up to £500,000. He added that it was "not usual, but not uncommon" for a GP referral request to be refused.

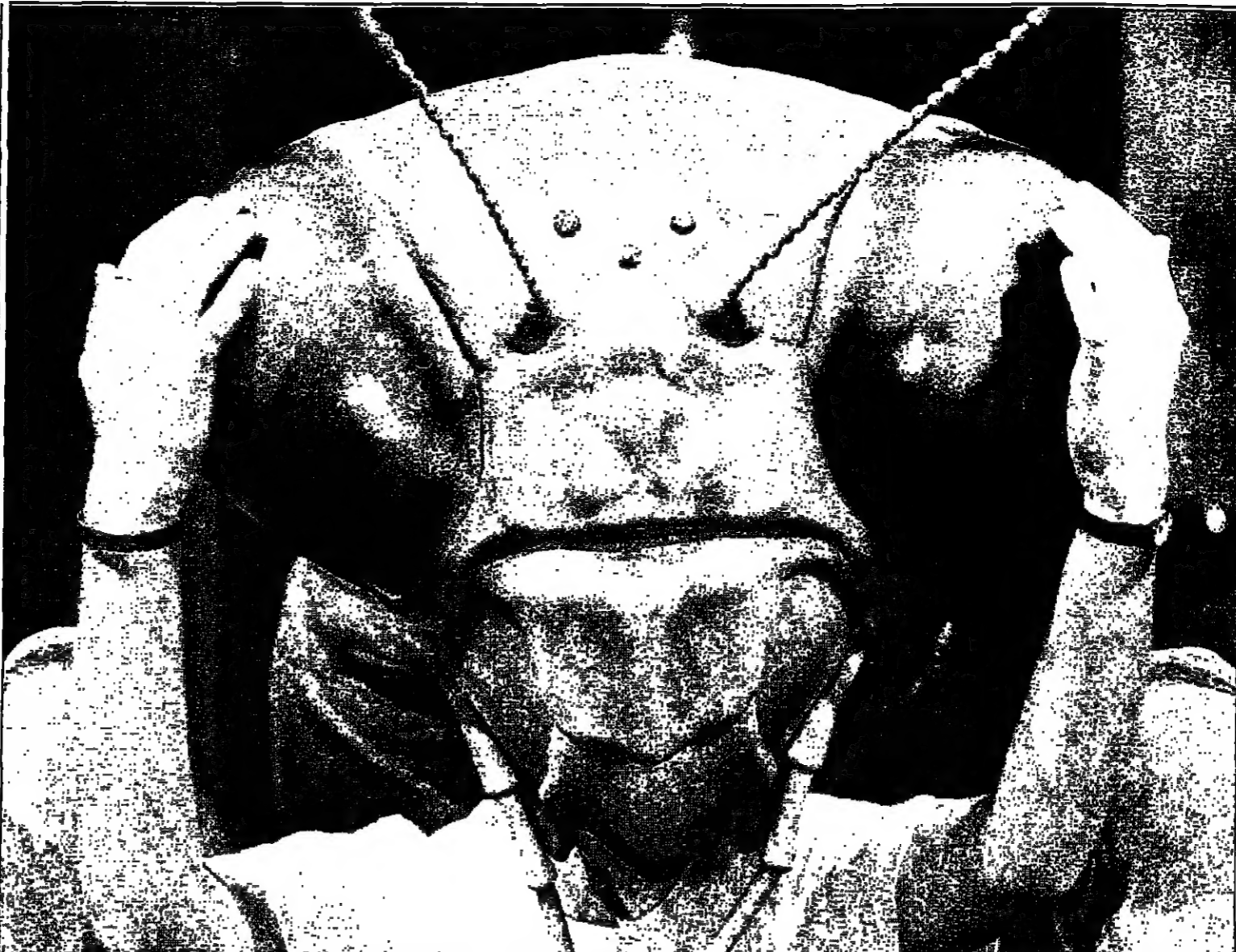
Dr Deakin said the authority had not been influenced by the large sums Ms Allwood was likely to receive for selling her story. "The decision was made on the basis of what is best for the patient in psychological and clinical terms. We have looked at the evidence and we can see no reason why she cannot be treated here."

In a statement the authority said: "There is no evidence that the outcome is likely to be in any way different whether the pregnancy is managed in London or in the specialised services available in our second city, Birmingham."

It said it will not have to spend extra funds on Ms Allwood's treatment if she is seen by hospitals already contracted to provide it with maternity care. By contrast the sums required to pay for Ms Allwood's treatment in London would be "very large".

As the authority is already under great financial pressure, approval of this single referral would result in a significant loss of services for the rest of the population of Solihull," it said.

Prof Nicolaidis has advised Ms Allwood that if she does not undergo a selective abortion of six of the embryos she is likely to lose all the babies and put her own life at risk.



Invasion of the creepy crawlies... Insect keeper Zoe Masters apparently being devoured head first by an 18 ft long robotic praying mantis, one of the exhibits at the new insect exhibition opening today at the National Museum of Wales in Cardiff

Show a leg, says judge

Ian Katz in New York

WHEN Katie Nemeth pleaded guilty in a Cleveland court to misusing a credit card, she expected a stiff fine. Instead the judge gave her some judicious advice: ditch her boyfriend, show a bit of leg and try to bag a doctor.

"Men are easy," Judge Shirley Saffold told her. "You can go sit in the bus stop, put on a short skirt, cross your legs and pick up 25. Ten of them will give you their money."

Nemeth admitted she had allowed her boyfriend to use a credit card she had found in the store where she worked. Judge Saffold, aged 45, advised her to split up with him. "All the women in prisons across these United States of America are there because of a guy," the judge said.

When Nemeth, aged 19, said she had already split up with him, the judge advised her to go to a nearby medical school and "marry a doctor".

Groups representing both men and women yesterday rounded on her remarks. "This judge not only insults men, but she insults women, too," declared Sidney Siller, founder of the National Organisation for Men.

Terry Gilbert, Nemeth's lawyer, said his client was relieved at first to get out of court but "when she thought about it afterwards, she was offended". Mr Gilbert said Judge Saffold's advice was "outrageous and inappropriate".

The judge, herself married to a doctor, told the Associated Press that her remarks had been taken out of context. "I was telling her her boyfriend's a bum."

American judges frequently impose idiosyncratic sentences. Earlier this year, a South Carolina judge ordered a 15-year-old girl with a history of delinquency to be chained to her mother.

However, Nemeth got more than a talking-to — she was also fined \$200 (£130).

Dunblane fury at gun lobby 'dirty tricks'

Magazine claims outsiders set up petition that victims' families presented at Westminster

Duncan Campbell Crime Correspondent

THE battle over gun control will intensify today when a leading gun magazine launches an attack on a petition which the Dunblane families presented at Westminster last month.

Anti-gun groups claim they are becoming the victims of "vicious" dirty tricks perpetrated by members of the gun lobby.

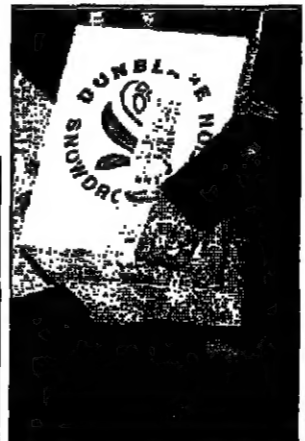
An article on gun control in the latest edition of Guns Review claims that the Snowdrop Petition, which was presented by a group of Dunblane parents last month, has no connection with the Dunblane families.

"This is the product of a group of people not from Dunblane and not involving any of those who suffered so much

there," says the article. Guns Review also claims that "signing the petition became a near mandatory requirement rather than a voluntary action in many places". It is also alleged that "government facilities, like photocopying, paper etc were used without authority. The petition was also circulated through schools, once again using public money to duplicate it."

In fact, the petition was started by Anne Fearston, whose children had previously attended the Dunblane school, and was supported by the parents of the children who were murdered there. The parents travelled to London on July 3 specifically to present the petition of 700,000 names. The petition called for changes in the law to ensure greater control of guns.

The magazine, which has offices in London and Hebden



Snowdrop petition being taken to Westminster

Bridge in Yorkshire, encourages shooters to write to another anti-gun group, the Society Against Guns in Europe. "At least they will have to pay for the stamp to write back to you... You should remember to put a stamp on the envelope otherwise they will have to pay excess postage."

The Gun Control Network, which was launched in the House of Commons last month with the support of the families of those murdered in the Dunblane and Hungerford shootings, is also mentioned and the address and telephone number of one of its members is given.

Last night, the groups concerned responded angrily to the magazine's claims. Judith Hill, of Gun Control Network, whose daughter was killed in the Hungerford massacre, said of the attack on the Snowdrop Petition: "It is one of the biggest dishonesties they could have said."

"It was instigated by the people up there. I think they're beginning to want to play dirty. It is boiling up."

Tobias Bernstein of SAGE said: "These comments are inaccurate. It's the sort of vicious type of attack we're getting used to. This is typical of the gun lobby. Their weakening position means that they resort to things like this."

Mr Bernstein said that around 10 per cent of the calls his organisation now

received were "wind-up" calls. "But if they were ignoring us, I would worry. It means we're touching a chord."

A spokeswoman for Guns Review said of the allegations about the Snowdrop petition: "When it (the magazine) went to press, that was the information we had about it." She said there was no intention to offend the families of Dunblane victims.

Cabinet secrets aired in New York courtroom

Chris Barrie and Richard Norton-Taylor

SECRET cabinet minutes showing how successive governments took extraordinary risks to pursue an ultimately disastrous investment in Northern Ireland for political reasons — including as a weapon against the IRA — have been disclosed by order of a New York court.

Government lawyers could not dispute their unease about the New York court ruling. It is believed to be the first time cabinet papers have been disclosed in a court case. The papers, according to lawyers acting for Arthur Andersen, reveal that James Callaghan's Labour government was heavily influenced in its support for the project to make the gull-winged sports car by its desire to "hammer" the IRA.

At a cabinet meeting of July 28, 1978, the then Northern Ireland minister, Roy Mason, said it was "of the utmost political, social and psychological importance that the project should go ahead". He

added: "This would be a hammer blow to the IRA."

The Government's decision to back the venture flew in the face of advice from management consultants McKinsey, who warned that the department was "being asked to fund an extraordinarily risky venture". The Cabinet acknowledged that the economics of the factory, which was to cost taxpayers over £70 million, were highly questionable. Only a week earlier McKinsey told ministers that the chances of the project succeeding were "remote".

Two years later, in 1981, Margaret Thatcher's government agreed to provide up to £21 million of aid, after a cabinet

committee discussion with the Attorney-General about the prospect of being sued by De Lorean if the money was refused. Thatcher agreed to pay on condition there would be no more help. But by February 1981 the company faced a further cash crisis. Recording a request for a bank guarantee, a cabinet paper of February 2, 1981, from the Northern Ireland Secretary, Humphrey Atkins, also stressed the Government's political commitment to the project.

The minutes record: "We cannot settle this on commercial grounds alone. The De Lorean venture has become something of a symbol for

HMG's commitment to Northern Ireland."

An apologetic note was sent to Mrs Thatcher explaining that the Government could avoid blame for the De Lorean collapse if it were to agree to the bank loan guarantee. Mrs Thatcher's handwritten comment read: "I take it this is the last [double underlined] help we give to this unwise project."

The De Lorean car company collapsed in 1982 with the loss of 2,000 jobs in west Belfast. The £77 million subsidies were slashed by the public accounts committee as one of the greatest abuses of public money for many years. The government sued Arthur An-

dersen in 1985 in the southern district court of New York under the anti-racketeering "RICO" Act.

The Cabinet Office said last night that the Government had been aware that "certain cabinet documents" were liable to be made public.

A spokeswoman said: "The Government has accepted this outcome in the interests of justice and the need to continue its claim for substantial damages in the interests of the British taxpayer."

Whitehall sources said never before had cabinet minutes been released for a court case. Cabinet papers have not been regarded as disclosable in court.

Inside

Britain Pressure on Kenneth Clarke to cut taxes in the budget was mounting after news that Britain moved £1.6 billion into the black in July. 3

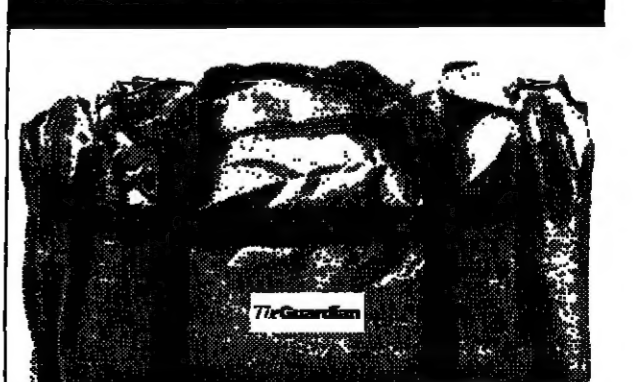
World News Mourners at the funeral of a Greek Cypriot shot dead on Wednesday bowed to appeals and agreed not to demonstrate afterwards. 7

Finance Apan-European defence industry news as British Aerospace and a French group agreed to form a large missile business. 23

Sport Manchester United will win the Premier League and Liverpool and Aston Villa will push Newcastle into fourth place, David Lacey predicts. 11

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The Guardian International & The Observer Travel Bag



This classic navy travel bag branded with the Guardian International and Observer logo is constructed from a water resistant, durable PVC. The many notable features include a heavy duty shoulder strap, carry handle and double ended zipper compartments. (80x30x25cm)

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Please send me... Guardian International/Observer Travel Bag/s £50.00; cost £... I enclose a cheque/money order for the sum of £... or please debit my Visa/Mastercard account.

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PRINCESS AT BAY: 'I fear that unless he is restrained I shall suffer undue psychological pressure and become ill'



Martin Stenning shows his Princess of Wales photographs as part of his high profile protest at being ordered to stay away from her PHOTOGRAPH BY MARK YOUNG



ON THE INSIDE: Arthur Edwards, aged 58, is the acceptable face of royal newspaper photography. Arfur, as The Sun's genial veteran snapper is known, has a charm, tact and cheeky humour that takes the sting out of the more sensitive assignments. He is a staff man, paid a salary and dispatched on specific stories. He much admires the Princess of Wales, and she is reputedly fond of him. She has forgiven the picture he took through the bushes in the Bahamas of her, pregnant, in a bikini. "She knew we were going to be there - we told her," said Edwards this week.



ON THE LIST: Richard Young, aged 48, the king of British paparazzi, has been in the business for 20 years. He is freelance, but highly respected by the tabloid papers. He turns up at every socialite occasion, usually invited. He does not need to pursue Diana - they are at the same parties. Shameless, yet charming, he has been handbagged by Barbra Streisand and spat at by Sean Penn. Most royals and celebrities, however, greet him by name. His most famous picture shows Diana stepping out of a car in an extremely low-cut dress. The late restaurateur Peter Langan said he could "grease his way through a door without opening it".



ON THE EDGE: Mark Saunders is one of the paparazzi who spend every day trailing the princess. He has pursued her for almost five years, selling his pictures through an agency to newspapers and magazines in the UK and abroad. He starts his day at the Chelsea Harbour Club, where the princess keeps fit, and then tries to follow her for the rest of the day. He is one of perhaps eight who sometimes work together. They have been half expecting the princess to accuse them in the courts of stalking her. "We take photos that command large fees," he told the Guardian last month. "It is not stalking."

Royal pack snaps at 'amateur' paparazzo

Angry photographer says he is a scapegoat and will fight court injunction banning him from going within 300m of Diana

Sarah Boseley

THE paparazzi who dog every step of the Princess of Wales, the agencies who sell the pictures and the newspapers who print them were distancing themselves last night from photographer Martin Stenning and the court injunction banning him from going near her. As Mr Stenning declared that he would fight the order in court, others involved in the lucrative royal picture business wrote him off as a dangerous amateur who brought photographers into disrepute. Phil Loftus, who owns Capital Pictures which sells freelance pictures of the royals around the world, said: "I think it is very bad for people to hang around outside Diana's place all the time if there is not a legitimate news story. What she has done is entirely justifiable and she deserves a break. It sounds as though Stenning did overstep the mark," he said. "I don't think he was following a legitimate news story - he was just always there all the time." Miguel Arzua, who runs

Absolute Picture Agency, said Mr Stenning was not a professional - just a former motor-bike courier who had picked up a camera a matter of months ago. "I think he got what he deserved because he is not a proper photographer. He's a messenger who thought he could make a quick buck by getting into a skilled profession he knew nothing about." Mike Maloney, chief photographer of Mirror Group Newspapers, said the problem was that any "by-night Johnnie-come-lately" could set themselves up. "They might be welders or bricklayers. They buy a state of the art camera and suddenly they are photographers. They cause problems. We are all tarred with the same brush." Mirror group photographers were bound by company rules, he said, which barred sneak photography and harassment of the royals. "but that doesn't prevent the paper buying the work of freelance photographers." The injunction against Mr Stenning, aged 36, bans him from getting closer to the princess than 300 metres, harassing her or communicating with her in any way. Yesterday, he protested his



A policeman restrains a photographer on the day of Diana's divorce PHOTOGRAPH BY MARTIN GOODMAN

innocence. "I am just a scapegoat. She sees me as an easy target," he said. "This woman uses people and then being used at the moment and I don't like it. I have never hurled abuse at her. Who would hurl abuse at the Princess of Wales? I'm not causing anyone pain. I'm not harassing anyone either." The princess said in her court affidavit: "I constantly feel on edge and am unable to go about my daily affairs without feeling anxious and stressed... I genuinely believe that the actions of the defendant are calculated to cause me harm. I fear that unless he is restrained I shall suffer undue psychological

pressure and become ill." One of the royal pack, Brendan Baines thought the injunction might make a difference. "I will certainly be holding back a bit more and keeping away from her and I'm sure there won't be so many people following her." Roy Greenslade, a former Mirror editor and media commentator, called the paparazzi respectable. No decent member of the pack would act the way he is alleged to have done. Yes, they hang about waiting for her, often over egg and chips in the Cafe Diana at the rear entrance of Kensington Palace, but she does not exactly change her routine. She seems to have come to terms with their regular presence, but Stenning, a recent raw recruit, went too far and regularly frightened her. It is a grubby job but someone has got to do it and like most

"If we created a law, would it inhibit the press in their legitimate activities? In my view, it would." A privacy law, along the lines of the French law, would prevent the exposure of wrong-doing among public figures. "The only way to control this, if we believe in newspaper self-regulation, is to amend the editors' code of conduct," he said.

Big money and long lenses will keep princess in the frame for years, writes Eamonn McCabe, the Guardian's Picture Editor

THE royal watchers were not saying much yesterday. They were using their mobile telephones as usual. Most of them have two, one for incoming calls one for outgoing. This time, instead of tipping each other off about where Di or Fergie had been spotted, they were sticking together and saying nothing. The antics of Martin Stenning and his injunction have all of a sudden made the word paparazzi respectable. No decent member of the pack would act the way he is alleged to have done. Yes, they hang about waiting for her, often over egg and chips in the Cafe Diana at the rear entrance of Kensington Palace, but she does not exactly change her routine. She seems to have come to terms with their regular presence, but Stenning, a recent raw recruit, went too far and regularly frightened her. It is a grubby job but someone has got to do it and like most

published in London. Bylines in newspapers are great adverts. Chasing pretty women in the street to photograph them is nothing new. Over 20 years ago the original paparazzo, Ron Galella, specialised in photographs of Jackie Onassis looking shocked and fearful, brought on by threatening behaviour on Galella's part. He was originally banned from going within 150 feet of Jackie and 25 feet from her children. Now its 300 metres, but who is going to measure it? The distance would not be a problem for the likes of Jim Bennett, the king of the paps, who once earned over £35,000 for a picture of Charles and Camilla. With his favourite Nikon 800 lens and converter, three quarters of a mile is no problem. The Press Complaints Commission has tried to draw up a set of rules but photographers driven by real money are not going to look in any rule book. With Diana well ahead of anybody else in the sale of pictures league, photographers like Bennett are going to follow her every move - through the longest lenses they make.

£1.6bn gain raises tax cut stakes

Tory MPs put pressure on Clarke after unexpected borrowing cut

Sarah Fyfe

PRESSURE on the Chancellor, Kenneth Clarke, from Conservative backbenchers to cut taxes in the next budget was mounting last night after unexpected news that Britain moved £1.6 billion into the black in July. Although Mr Clarke has repeatedly played down plans to lower taxes in the final budget before the general election, the improvement in public finances fuelled hopes of a headline-grabbing cut of at least 1p off the basic rate to boost the Conservatives' position in the polls. It rounded off a good week

on the economic front for the Government, with unemployment at a five-year low and inflation stable. John Redwood, former Tory leadership challenger, seized on the recovery of the public sector borrowing requirement, which puts the Chancellor on course to meet his £26.9 billion target this year, to demand a reduction in personal taxation. Mr Redwood urged Mr Clarke to follow the call by the Republican Party presidential candidate, Bob Dole, for a 15 per cent cut in tax rates. "I would like him to cut taxes in November as he brings expenditure under better control," he said. City experts said Mr Clarke

would cut taxes even if he could not squeeze his cabinet colleagues hard enough to offset the cost with spending reductions. The Government is in the middle of public spending negotiations and Mr Clarke's assertions that the economy, not the polls, comes first have been described as a strategic ploy to suppress cash demands from spending ministers. Nevertheless, the PSBR has been a thorn in the Treasury's side. It has had to revise forecasts for annual totals when VAT receipts were mysteriously millions of pounds short. Treasury Secretary Philip Oppenheim said: "The PSBR was £2.5 billion lower than last year even after taking out privatisation proceeds. The PSBR in July was some £1.6 billion better than a year ago. These welcome figures con-

firm that the PSBR is on a downward trend." The Treasury said it had expected a significant improvement thanks to a large inflow of tax receipts as well as proceeds from privatisations. The sell-offs generated £800 million, with about £500 million from the flotation of British Energy and £300 million from Railtrack. After the net repayment of the cumulative tally for the first four months of this financial year was £2.77 billion, compared with £12.13 billion at the same point last year. There was further evidence yesterday that the economy is benefiting from a revival of consumer activity as the British Retail Consortium reported that credit sales topped a record £1 billion in the three months to June. But it was difficult to see what to do about it, he said.

Battersea power station plan in doubt after big investors pull out

Ruaradh Nicol

SIR Andrew Lloyd Webber's Really Useful Group and airport operator BAA have pulled out of the plan to reinvent Battersea power station as a huge leisure and shopping centre. Their exit, as two of the four companies involved, could be a near fatal blow to the project. After long negotiations, the companies decided they

could not work with Parkview International, a Hong Kong property group. "Unfortunately we and the Really Useful Group have reached deadlock in negotiations," said a spokesman for BAA. The company listed the problem areas as "management control, particularly influence over transport links, and differing interests in the remainder of the 51-acre site." Parkview, which bought the site three years ago

after the original developer, Battersea Leisure, ran out of cash, and the fourth partner, the American Gordon Group, have said they will go ahead, but the blow will be very hard. BAA was to put up a quarter of the estimated £200 million that the project will cost and the remaining companies say they may look for new partners. BAA had earmarked £500,000 to look into the possibility of the park in a

feasibility study that was due to run for most of this year. It is thought that the company has already paid out £100,000. The Really Useful Group, which was also to have invested heavily, declined to comment except to say that it backed all BAA's claims. The plans for the power station were dramatic, with a 32-screen cinema, hundreds of shops and a ride through the well-known chimneys.

Advertisement for MBNA Express Loan. Features a large 'A' and 'LOAN OF VERY LITTLE INTEREST'. Includes interest rate tables for various loan amounts and a table of interest rates for different banks. Contact number 0800 551441.

Over the past two decades I've thought only occasionally about Clare, pictured the little grave in a Manchester cemetery that we used to visit but don't any more.

Outlook page 13

4 BRITAIN

News in brief

12 RUC families driven out of homes

A DOZEN officers of the Royal Ulster Constabulary and their families have had to leave their homes because of threats following the recent disorder over marches in Northern Ireland.

Children die in house fire

TWO children who died in a fire at their home may have been playing with matches, according to police. Emma Neal, aged six, and her sister Marie, aged three, were found dead in the bedroom of their terraced house in Chelmsford, Essex, early yesterday.

Footballer on sex charge

A MANCHESTER City footballer, Andy Dibble, has been charged with indecently assaulting a woman. The 31-year-old reserve team goalkeeper will appear before magistrates in Trafford, Greater Manchester, next month, jointly charged with another man and a woman.

Under-age binge for Oasis

A VISIT to Cork by the Manchester rock group Oasis has prompted the Irish city's mayor to call for identity cards to be issued to stop under-age drinking.

Vicar's death: man remanded

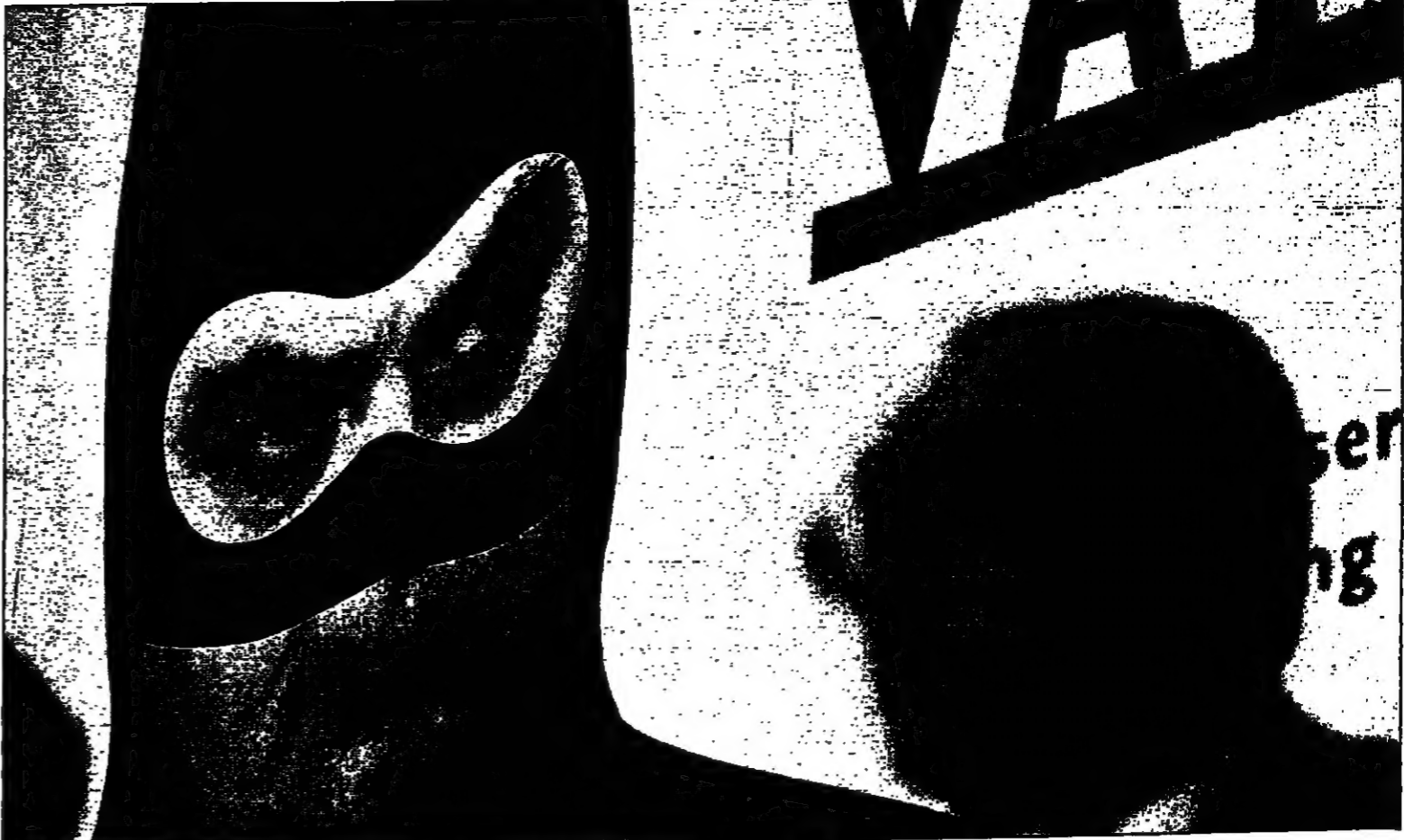
A 31-YEAR-OLD man was remanded in custody yesterday charged with the murder of a vicar who was stabbed to death in the grounds of his church.

Libel trial set for October

NELI Hamilton MP and lobbyist Ian Greer's libel action against the Guardian over allegations that they took cash for tabling parliamentary questions is to go ahead at the High Court in October.



Advertising watchdog says satanic image may breach code of practice as former communications chief voices disquiet, but Portillo insists the eyes have it



The 'demonising' of Tony Blair, and Labour's portrayal of Norman Lamont as Vatman in a 1962 poster

Tories pitch Vatman against 'demon'

Rebecca Smithers Political Correspondent THE controversy over the Tory advertisement 'demonising' Tony Blair escalated yesterday, when the party's former communications chief, Hugh Colver, said the image was unpleasant and ineffective.

But the Conservative Party said it was planning to launch a "robust" defence of the image, which portrays the Labour leader — a practising Christian — as a demon with blazing red eyes.

Mr Colver — who quit as Tory director of communications last year — said of the advert: "I don't like it, partly because I don't find it particularly pleasant, but also, more importantly, I just don't think it works."

Mr Portillo said much of the criticism was misplaced. "I think that is based on a complete misunderstanding and that is that the eyes are demonic. The eyes are not demonic. They are dangerous."

advertisement's use of "satanic" imagery was "potentially dangerous". Yesterday the Bishop of Aston, the Rev John Austin, said the poster would be disturbing to many Muslims as well as Christians.

Mr Mandelson rejected the Tories' claim that the poster was in the same vein as Labour's image of Norman Lamont. "We were attacking a subject, not a person. There were no complaints and, indeed, Mr Lamont's office even asked for a copy of it."

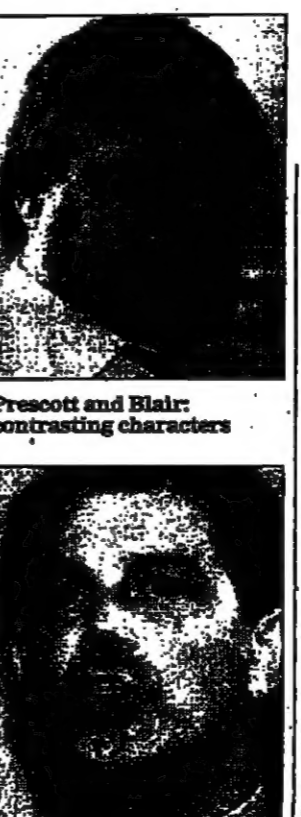
Outspoken Prescott endangers truce with Blair

Deputy talks of party unease and says some MPs 'can't stomach' certain shadow cabinet members

Rebecca Smithers THE fragile truce between Tony Blair and John Prescott appeared to have been shattered yesterday, after the combative Labour deputy leader publicly expressed his concern about the speed of change within the party and candidly admitted some MPs "couldn't stomach" certain members of the shadow cabinet.

she warned in the New Statesman that Mr Blair risked losing the general election if he continued to succumb to the influence of the "dark forces" surrounding him.

announcing a new disciplinary code. "That was one of the greatest acts of discipline by the parliamentary party that has ever been recorded. There were lots of MPs voting for people they couldn't stomach but they did not want to provide discipline," he said in the interview.



No-nonsense 'man of the people' finds it difficult to fit in with the 'Islington socialist' moderniser

THE strains and tensions between Tony Blair and John Prescott are legendary, and have as much to do with their contrasting characters as with the New and Old Labour politics they represent, writes Rebecca Smithers.

Mr Blair's "inner sanctum" of advisers. But the pair patched things up and Mr Prescott was rewarded with a key job in the general election planning team.

Watchdog to investigate 'lost' coal worth £24m

Rebecca Smithers and Suzanne Mills THE National Audit Office is to investigate an allegation that nearly £24 million worth of coal, said to have gone missing from a British coal colliery two years ago, has turned up in stockpiles owned by the main private coal company, RJB Mining.

to the taxpayer and a loss to the Exchequer. The people of Nottingham already feel betrayed by the Government over coal privatisation.

for RJB, last night refused to comment on the new allegation. Mr Longdon said that, if the latest claims were correct, he believed the problem was the result of compounded errors in stock surveys, which were "notoriously difficult" and appeared to have involved the quantity of coal at Rufford. There was no suggestion of dishonesty on the part of RJB, which had paid for what it thought it was buying. But he hoped any new information would "clear away the shadow over my own honesty and integrity."

Warning to colleges on 'poaching'

Donald MacLeod Education Correspondent POACHING of students by universities has cost colleges thousands of pounds in lost fee income and provoked a warning from the admissions service.

gaining places quicker than in previous years but some engineering and science courses are still experiencing difficulties in filling their vacancies.

to meet recruitment targets this year have been particularly incensed. Richard Evans, principal of Stockport College, said that two years ago he lost 100 students each worth between £2,000 and £5,000 in income from the funding council.

'There is concern in the Nottingham coalfield that this is yet another rip-off'

significant discrepancy" between the results of those surveys and what was left on the ground.

The controversy has its origins in a 1994 scandal within BC, when a gap of 600,000 tonnes of coal, which would fill 20,000 lorries, was found between recorded and actual stocks at Rufford. Two senior BC managers — John Longdon, the Midlands area director, and Mike Gore, the Nottinghamshire marketing manager — were forced out as a result, amid rumours that the coal had been deliberately "disappeared".

Mr Gore, who now works

'Son' of Rab C. Nesbitt dies

John Arledge THE actor Eric Cullen, who played Wes Burzey in the TV comedy series Rab C. Nesbitt, until he was convicted of paedophile offences, died in hospital yesterday, aged 31.

him out of the Rab C. Nesbitt scripts. At the High Court in Edinburgh last year Cullen admitted four charges of indecency. He was jailed for nine months but released after two weeks in Barlinnie prison after lodging an appeal.

At Scotland's Court of Criminal Appeal, Cullen's lawyers said he had been sexually abused since he was 13 and had become a target for paedophiles because his height made him look like a child. His sentence was reduced to three years' probation. He later took a drugs overdose.

The Observer advertisement with coupon and contact information

Screen section advertisement for Rab C. Nesbitt

Handwritten signature or mark at the bottom of the page

Farmers face ruin after collapse of talks on slaughter payments • Old soldier attacks bar on muck

# Cash row halts Ulster BSE cull

David Sharrock  
Ireland Correspondent

**N**ORTHERN Ireland's beef farmers have been plunged deeper into crisis as the BSE cull comes to a halt today because of a row over the cost of carrying out the slaughter.

Negotiations between the Northern Ireland Meat Exporters Association (NIMEA) and the Northern Ireland Office over payments broke down on Thursday night.

With 90,000 animals left to be culled, farmers are facing ruin unless the dispute can be swiftly resolved.

George Trevelyan, chief executive of the Meat Intervention Board, which administers the scheme, said yesterday: "We haven't agreed a new price but the job should be done for considerably less, the process is fairly straightforward and simple."

The Northern Ireland agriculture minister Baroness Denton appealed to NIMEA to go back into negotiations.

"If the cull is stopped, the people who will suffer are the farmers."

"The Government has put £2.5 billion in and more of this will just make it so much worse for the farmers," she said.

"There is a massive backlog already. It's not enough for the factories to be killing just 4,000 cattle a week when there's a

90,000 backlog," said a farmer yesterday. "We're here in the middle of August and the autumn is coming forward quite fast. With no rain recently, grass is becoming scarce and these cattle may have to be housed again and that would be a complete disaster," he said.

"Healthy prime beef, young cattle, millions of people in the world starving - there's something ethically and morally wrong here."

"The Government don't understand the severity of the problem in Northern Ireland and they are going to have to do something radical about it immediately."

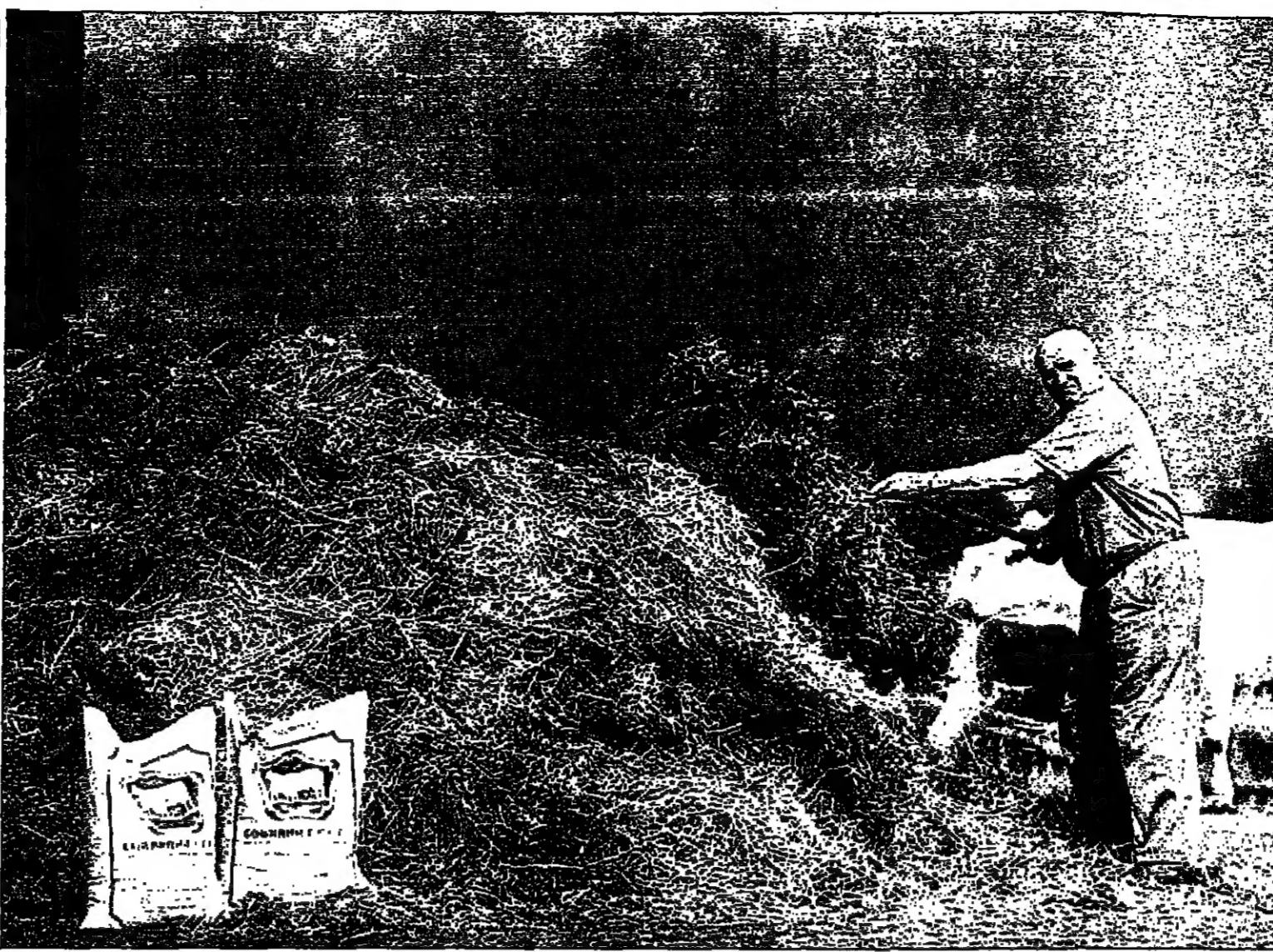
The Ulster Farmers Union president, Greer McCollum, told the NIMEA to "stop playing around with the livelihoods of our beef farmers."

"This is another terrible blow to the farmers' morale. But let me say the Government, as far as this cull scheme is concerned, had not met the commitments promised to farmers."

Mr McCollum said farmers were now contemplating burning their animals themselves as happened during the foot-and-mouth scare. "But this is a route I would not like to have to go down," he said.

Leslie Craig, chairman of the local Agricultural Producers Association, said: "We would hope for everyone's sake that this can be resolved quickly and before Monday morning."

"We are meeting senior officials of the Ministry of Agriculture in London and this will certainly be on top of our agenda if it is not resolved in the meantime."



Retired major Frank Homfray at work down on the farm. 'Orders for manure have just disappeared'

PHOTOGRAPH: GARETH LLEWELLYN WILLIAMS

## Farmer rails at 'crazy' Germans as British manure is turned away because of mad cow disease

BRITISH cow manure has fallen foul of the BSE scare, it was claimed yesterday, as it is turned away because of mad cow disease.

Homfray, of Penilly Estate Farm, Cowbridge, South Wales, can no longer sell the manure from his prize-winning herd of Marchigiana bulls and cows goes into Cowbridge Concentrated Cattle Compost, which the major claims is five times stronger than normal farm yard manure and does not smell. The farm produces 300-400 tonnes of fertilizer every year, most of which goes to local farms and garden centres. Major Homfray dis-

missed worries about BSE as crazy. The National Farmers Union said: "This is symptomatic of the German paranoia about BSE."

Major Homfray has pledged to give £10,000 to charity if anyone could prove a case of CJD - the human form of BSE - being contracted through eating beef.

because they are scared of catching mad cow disease. Major Homfray, 73, said: "We used to sell 12,000 bags a year to the Germans, but now because of the BSE scare and the propaganda that they have been fed the orders have just disappeared."

The manure from an 800-strong herd of Marchigiana bulls and cows goes into Cowbridge Concentrated Cattle Compost, which the major claims is five times stronger than normal farm yard manure and does not smell. The farm produces 300-400 tonnes of fertilizer every year, most of which goes to local farms and garden centres. Major Homfray dis-

## 'Absurd theatre' as Old Master is purchased just on deadline

Dan Gleister

**J**UST as the export ban on Guercino's *Erminia Finding The Wounded Tancréd*, expired at midnight on Thursday, the final £17,500 was found to complete the National Gallery of Scotland's purchase of the painting for £2,043,096.

had been issued to prevent the painting going to the J Paul Getty Museum in California. Standing before the painting, Timothy Clifford, director of the National Galleries of Scotland, said yesterday: "At midnight the difference of £17,500 was found by an anonymous benefactor."

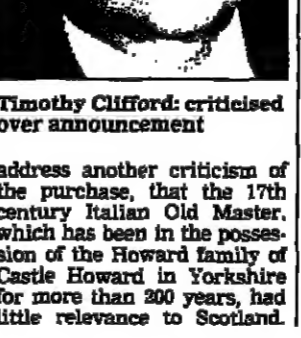
appeal once the National Heritage Memorial Fund had agreed to provide 75 per cent of the purchase price. John Paul Getty Jr contributed £100,000, as did the Scottish Office. A further £100,000 was donated by the Fo Shing Woo Foundation of Hong Kong. Collection boxes in the gallery raised £3,000.

Mr Clifford said that the interest aroused by the appeal had been beneficial. "You probably think this is a piece of absurd theatre, but the appeal suddenly got into calm waters. Guercino is an artist not everybody had heard of beforehand."

The decision to buy the painting had been criticised on several fronts. The last minute nature of the announcement that the necessary funds had been raised at-

tracted suggestions it had been stage managed. The 50-year-old Mr Clifford, who designed the tartan uniforms worn by the gallery's attendants, has previously been in the news for describing Scottish art as "a minor school", and for injudiciously criticising Mr Getty junior at the time of the purchase of Canova's *Three Graces*.

A letter in yesterday's Scotsman newspaper from Angus Grossart, chairman of the National Galleries of Scotland, cast doubt on Mr Clifford's assertion that the purchase had been a nail-biting event. "We believe that the purchase is a great triumph for Scotland," Mr Grossart wrote, several hours before the deadline. Mr Clifford revealed also that the anonymous donor of the £17,500 had agreed to make up the shortfall whatever the figure.



Timothy Clifford: criticised over announcement

Mr Grossart was writing to address another criticism of the purchase, that the 17th century Italian Old Master, which has been in the possession of the Howard family of Castle Howard in Yorkshire for more than 200 years, had little relevance to Scotland.

Under the headline "Heritage, schmeritzage", Duncan Macmillan had asked in the Scotsman: "Is it the importance of the purchaser, the place, or the length of time it hung there that changes into heritage what was once a lot in an auction?"

The painting, bought at Christie's in London by the Earl of Carlisle in 1772, is not regarded as an exceptional example of the artist's work. "It's very nice, but it's only sophisticated wallpaper," said Murdoch Macdonald, lecturer in cultural studies at the University of Edinburgh. "Mr Clifford has an ignorance of Scotland complicated by delusions of grandeur."

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**I was going to meet two sporting giants and I was really looking forward to it. By the time our 40-minute meeting was over, I have never been so glad to leave an interview in my life.**

Joanna Coles

**Outlook page 17**

# World news, delivered to your door.

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**The Guardian**  
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Premier Newspapers

REPUBLICAN CONVENTION: Party faithful cheer lukewarm wrap-up in San Diego



Bob Dole and his wife Elizabeth wave from the podium at the end of the Republican convention in San Diego. Mr Dole's daughter Robin is in the background PHOTOGRAPH: MIKE NELSON

Awkward Dole fails to wow America

Jonathan Freedland in San Diego

EXPECTATIONS for Bob Dole's acceptance speech had been low — even his best friends admit he is no orator — but anticipation after a week of build-up was high. His supporters hoped and his opponents feared the Republican candidate would deliver the speech of his life. Yesterday it appeared his achievement was more modest, leaving an audience not exactly wowed by his performance. "I thought it was all right," said the nominee himself of

his moment in the national spotlight. "I liked it." But the first reviews for his performance were lukewarm. "It had a kind of interrupted eloquence," was the kindest remark that Peggy Noonan, the speech-writer credited with some of Ronald Reagan's best lines, could manage. "He would build up a good theme and then drop it," she said. Ms Noonan also faulted the candidate for successfully sketching a moral critique of the United States, only to conclude "with a cheap 'and it's all Bill Clinton's fault'."

Other party analysts put on a braver face. Kellyanne Fitzpatrick, a Republican pollster, said it was a "well-executed speech" that pressed several American "hot button issues." Ms Fitzpatrick said it was now up to Mr Clinton to show why he had the moral authority to be president. But she, too, concluded that Mr Dole's frequent stumbling, his awkward body posture and his habit of treading on his own applause lines diminished his effectiveness. "He should have said 'I'm not good at this'," Ms Fitzpatrick said, explaining that the polls show fear of public speaking is America's most common phobia.

Bill Kristol, editor of the conservative Weekly Standard and former chief of staff to vice-president Dan Quayle, was disappointed. "It was not forward-looking or optimistic. It was about an America that once was." Republican office holders were more effusive. The governor of California, Pete Wilson, told Mr Dole: "You gave the most courageous speech I've ever heard from a presidential candidate." The party's majority leader in the House of Representatives, Dick Armey, said: "This was a 10 or better."

Democrats, however, seized on the speech as the first lapse in an otherwise flawless Republican convention, not-

ing that Mr Clinton had not even bothered to watch the speech. A senior adviser, George Stephanopoulos, said: "This was the most partisan, negative and divisive acceptance speech since Barry Goldwater in 1964," referring to the ultra-right Republican nominee who famously declared "extremism in the defence of liberty is no vice."

The nation's pundits also delivered a mixed verdict on the speech. The main television networks agreed it was probably too long. Ron Elving, the political editor of Congressional Quarterly magazine, said: "Some things are good long — novels and

What the papers — and the networks — say

It was the climax of the show, and the nominee's shot at the biggest prize of all. But the media were not all swayed

**VINTAGE PERFORMANCE** DOLE looked visibly relieved and was no doubt pleased with his performance... It was a vintage Bob Dole performance. — *Tun Brooks, NBC television*

**ENERGETIC AURA** DOLE and Kemp are different candidates than they were a month ago, with dramatically altered positions. Dole has surely not forgotten his painful struggles to keep supply-side economics from bankrupting the country during the Reagan era. But he steps on to the campaign trail a born-again supply-sider. Kemp has just done an about-face on some of his foundation principles, such as support for affirmative action and defunding of the children of illegal immigrants.

Dole and Kemp now have a more energetic aura, and tens of millions of dollars in newly released campaign financing

to buy advertisements. What they do not have any longer is a base from which to criticise Clinton for his well-known willingness to shift with the political winds. — *Leader comment, New York Times*

**SENSE OF PLACE** IN A surprisingly confrontational speech, Mr Dole set the stage for a presidential campaign to be fought on both ideological and generational grounds...

Never known as a captivating orator, Dole was more forceful than charismatic yet he projected a strong sense of place and conviction that evoked a powerful response from the partisans in the hall... Transforming a presidential race in a single night may be too much to ask for any address... But, after seeming to wander without a clear direction for much of the past few months, Dole on Thursday may have met one of his principal, if beset, goals: to convince Americans that the race presented them with "crystal-clear differences". — *Ronald Brownstein, Los Angeles Times*

**LAUNDRY LIST** THE convention did better for Bob Dole than Bob Dole did at the convention. It was too long a speech, it was a compendium. It was a laundry

list, it had too much in the middle. — *Mark Shields, Public Television*

**FINGERS OFF** THE great imponderable now is whether Dole converted enough of his unseen audience, the nation's politically agnostic voters, to give himself a real chance in November. He spoke for 57 minutes, straining the limits of television's short attention span. But at a minimum, he used the largest audience of his life to give a much fuller account of what makes him tick than ever before.

He portrayed himself as a man with his feet planted on the bedrock of American tradition, a John Wayne or a Jimmy Stewart doing battle with a president whom he pictured as rootless, glib, expedient and imprudent... He kept his finger off the hottest of hot buttons, like abortion and school prayer, and sometimes sounded as if he were talking back to the platform his party adopted this week...

Richard Nixon once said: "There is one thing solid and fundamental in politics: the law of change. What's up today is down tomorrow." Dole now has about 11 weeks of tomorrows to make that come true in the presidential politics of 1996. — *R. W. Apple, New York Times*

American dreams and wise words from Bob

The following are excerpts from Bob Dole's acceptance speech on Thursday night as the Republican Party's presidential candidate.

**W**HO am I that stands before you? I come from good people, from very good people, and I'm proud of it... I stand with my feet on the ground, just a man at the mercy of God.

This perspective has been strengthened and solidified by a certain wisdom that I owe not to any achievement of my own, but to the gracious compensations of age... Age has its advantages. Let me be the bridge to an America that only the unknowing call myth. Let me be the bridge to a time of tranquility, faith, and confidence in action. To those who say it was never so, that America has not been better, I say, you're wrong, and I know, because I was there...

You work from January 1 into May just to pay your taxes, so that the party of government can satisfy its priorities with the sweat of your brow... That has simply got to stop. It is demeaning to the nation that within the Clinton administration a corps of the elite who never grew up, never did anything real, never sacrificed, never suffered, and never learned, should have the power to fund with your

earnings their dubious and self-serving schemes...

And make no mistake about it, my economic programme is the right policy for America... It means you will have a president and a Congress who have the will to balance the budget by the year 2002. It means you will have a president who will reduce taxes 15 per cent across the board for every taxpayer in America...

The Clinton administration just doesn't get it — they think they're in charge of you. And that's why they have got to go...

**'The Clinton administration just doesn't get it — That's why they have got to go'**

We must also commit ourselves to trade policy that does not suppress pay and threaten American jobs. By any measure, the trade policy of the Clinton administration has been a disaster... Let me speak about immigration. The right and obligation of a sovereign nation to control its own borders is beyond debate. We should not

have here a single illegal immigrant. But the question of immigration is broader than that, and let me be specific. A family from Mexico who arrived this morning, legally, has as much right to the American dream as the direct descendants of the founding fathers...

Because of misguided priorities, there have been massive cuts in funding for our national security. I believe President Clinton has failed to adequately provide for our future defence. For whatever reason his neglect, it is irresponsible...

On my first day in office, I will put America on a course that will end our vulnerability to missile attack and rebuild our armed forces... On my first day in office, I will also put terrorists on notice: if you harm one American, you harm all Americans. And America will pursue you to the ends of the earth. In short, don't mess with us unless you are prepared to suffer the consequences.

I will never commit the American soldier to an ordeal without the prospect of victory. And when I am president, our men and women in our armed forces will know the president is his commander-in-chief — not Boutros Boutros-Ghali or any UN secretary-general.

Creoles feel the squeeze in Belize identity struggle

Phil Gunson in Belize City reports on the country's painful transition and the problem of racial tension

**T**AKE the bus north towards the Mexican border from this tiny Caribbean port and you may find yourself wondering what country you are in. Signs in Chinese line the roadside, and the radio plays a mixture of ballads in Spanish and English, mingled with reggae.

In the former British colony of Belize, where your Sri Lankan curry may well be served by a Spanish-speaking waiter of Guatemalan origin, the once-dominant black Creole population is waking up to the fact that it is no longer even the largest minority. At the same time, with the British link becoming more tenuous since the withdrawal two years ago of the bulk of British forces, the realities of geopolitics are forcing the government to adapt to the requirements of Washington rather than Whitehall.

Neither is an easy transition. "I don't want to come across as anti-American, but we've always been so much more comfortable with British in the post-independence era," the deputy prime minister, Dean Barrow, said. Britain has handled relations in "a much more adroit way", while Washington can be offensively insensitive, he said.

Last month the Belizeans sent Washington a sharp protest note after an outgoing United States diplomat made critical references to the country's record on drug trafficking and alien smuggling. "It was a shot across our bows," said Mr Barrow. He believes Washington's irritation dates back to the Belizeans' refusal to accede to a 1994 request to house Cuban and Haitian refugees. Then came an argument over the terms of a treaty on the return of stolen US cars. "We recognise they're far too powerful for us to be playing foolish games," Mr Barrow said. "But we don't want to be smothered by them."

With 54 pirated US cable channels available on local television, and a street culture heavily influenced by south-central Los Angeles — where many Belizeans emigrate — some might argue the battle is half lost already.

But it is not the US influence that worries the black Creole population. "The Chi-

nese and Hispanics get stuck in and unite and they get a piece of the pie," said Robert, a father of seven who describes himself as a "gopher" — go for this, go for that — and wants immigration to be a national issue, causing some local people to mutter that the government was selling the country to foreigners.

"It hasn't created that much tension, but it did take people's minds off the Hispanic issue," said Stewart Escobar, the managing director of a local television station. In 1991, census figures showed that Hispanics had become the largest minority.



with 43 per cent of the population, while the Creoles had declined from 40 per cent to less than 30 per cent.

Emigration to the US was a factor in the dramatic demographic shift. But to many poor blacks, the Chinese have come in and put the Hispanics to work, leaving Creoles on the sidelines.

So far, however, the evidence of tension is confined to isolated incidents, and many feel the country's special cultural identity is strong enough to survive. "Don't forget that Kriol [the Belizean Creole language] is still the lingua franca even for Hispanics arriving here," said Nuri Muhammad, director of a government youth programme.

But Mr Barrow believes that in time Spanish will become an official language. "The logic of our geographical destiny is impossible to avoid," he said.

Alberta site reveals traces of 'first North Americans'

Reporter in Alberta

**A**RCHAEOLOGISTS digging into a cliff face in Calgary have found what they say is the earliest evidence of human habitation in North America, according to a report yesterday by the Canadian Press news agency.

The site in western Canada is at least 20,000 years old, based on the geology and the artefacts discovered, said an archaeologist-geologist, Jiri Chlachula, who is leading the dig.

Mr Chlachula became convinced that prehistoric humans had lived at the site when he found stone tools and flakes earlier this year, scattered amid glacier-deposited stones. Characteristic flaking on the crude stone scrapers and other artefacts shows they could only have been made by people, he said. He did not want to give the exact location of the site, to prevent the curious from disturbing the find.

Mr Chlachula, a university professor in the Czech Republic, acknowledges that his find will be controversial. His claim is backed by a University of Alberta archaeologist, Alan Bryan, who is also working on the dig.

Many North American archaeologists, however, believe that Alberta was first occupied about 11,500 years ago, 8,500 years later than Mr Chlachula believes his evidence indicates.

It would be "very significant" if Mr Chlachula is correct, said Gerry Oetelaar, a University of Calgary archaeology professor. In theory, he added, nothing would have prevented people from reaching Alberta more than 11,500 years ago.

Archaeologists have generally accepted that the earliest site of human habitation in Canada is in the Yukon. It is believed to have been occupied 17,000 years ago by people who crossed the Bering Strait land-bridge from Asia to North America.

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Racing

Dettoni delights with 420-1 Newbury treble

Dettoni's triumph at Newbury today, and on her last visit to the track this season...

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Cricket

Stewart unwilling to keep Russell out

Mike Selvey on the limited options open to the selectors for the third Test at The Oval

THE perennial post-Botnam problem of trying to fit a quality batsman into the England selectors when they meet today to pick their squad for the final Test of the summer which begins at The Oval on Thursday...

likely balance would be four seamers and a spinner, although two spinners should not be discounted. Recent history has shown The Oval pitch to be possessed of pace and bounce...



Stewart... keeping again?

No 2 TOTAL No 6 275 616 6 9 Bowler Wkts 7 Bowler Overs 57 151 47 Last Man B6 Fall of Wkt 47 14 KENT VISITORS POINT

Board Walker... Kent's top scorer at Canterbury passes before the record TOM JENNINGS

Walker in the sun leaves Woolley in the shade

There is nothing like a good wind-up. At a quarter to three yesterday Trevor Ward clapped his hands and brought a halt to Kent's first innings...

Gooch receives England call as A-team coach

The new England order came a shade closer to fruition yesterday with the announcement that Graham Gooch will coach the England A tourists in Australia this year...

Golf Dignified Lendl bounds out

Michael Britten in Marianne Luzzo cause he hits everything with a draw. But Ivan has a good short game and his concentration is excellent...

Equestrianism Sublime victory for Skelton

NICK SKELTON and Sub-Nime won a seven-horse jump-off for the Silk Cut Derby Trial here yesterday...

Saqlain spins himself into Test contention with six-wicket haul

Saqlain Mushtaq, Pakistan's 19-year-old spin bowler, sent Leicestershire reeling to defeat at Grace Road yesterday...

County C'ship: Gloucestershire v Yorkshire

Yorkshire crumble

GRAHAM GOOCH came to watch; though not despite rumblings of native concern at Nevil Road, to soften up Jack Russell psychologically for any Test reshuffle that would mean the little wicketkeeper from the Cotswolds had been rejected once more...

Derbyshire v Notts

Malcolm's season of discontent

IT IS Malcolm's season once more, that time of year when grounds are brown and shadows long, when The Oval is being rolled and a Test series is being lost...

Tour match TCCB v S Africa A

Brown nudges selectors for one-day place

ALLY BROWN's championship form has been poor enough to make the most recent England selector Brian Only two first-class fixtures since his eventual Test debut...

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Scoreboard

Table with columns for County, Innings, Runs, Wickets, Extras, and Fall of Wickets. Includes sections for Gloucestershire v Yorkshire, Yorkshire v Gloucestershire, Kent v Somerset, and Lancashire v Hampshire.

Derbyshire v Nottinghamshire

Table with columns for Innings, Runs, Wickets, Extras, and Fall of Wickets. Includes sections for Derbyshire v Nottinghamshire and Nottinghamshire v Derbyshire.

Leicestershire v Somerset

Table with columns for Innings, Runs, Wickets, Extras, and Fall of Wickets. Includes sections for Leicestershire v Somerset and Somerset v Leicestershire.

South Africa A v TCCB

Table with columns for Innings, Runs, Wickets, Extras, and Fall of Wickets. Includes sections for South Africa A v TCCB and TCCB v South Africa A.

South Africa A v TCCB

Table with columns for Innings, Runs, Wickets, Extras, and Fall of Wickets. Includes sections for South Africa A v TCCB and TCCB v South Africa A.

South Africa A v TCCB

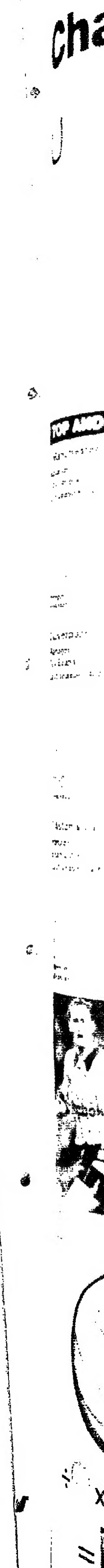
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South Africa A v TCCB

Table with columns for Innings, Runs, Wickets, Extras, and Fall of Wickets. Includes sections for South Africa A v TCCB and TCCB v South Africa A.

South Africa A v TCCB

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Soccer

With £100 million splashed around on close-season refits, the new Premiership season promises to be more open than last time, writes David Lacey

Chase is on for silver if not gold

UNLIKE his team Sir John Hall, the chairman of Newcastle United, was in an exceptionally good form this week. His brisk enthusiasm filled the late-night airwaves during a discussion on the state of English football.

Not that there is anything intrinsically wrong in marketing the game aggressively. Certainly for the 1996-97 Premiership programme which begins today the hype has been more strident than ever.

cord means that the odd million or two will no longer buy very much. Prize-money apart, however, the spin-offs that success brings are going to be more lucrative than ever.

Such a prospect would have done much to ease Newcastle's disappointment last time when they failed to win the

back will be pursuing something potentially better than a UEFA Cup place.

Sasa Curcic from Bolton this week was smart piece of business by Brian Little.

chances of staying up. The big foreign imports will hold much of the early attention, and on the speed with which they settle down will the success of a number of teams depend.

The scrap for the runners-up spot could become no less intense than the struggle for the title

TOP AND BOTTOM: David Lacey predicts this season's finishing order

1 Manchester Utd
Manager: Alex Ferguson
Last season: 1st
Manchester United are a good bet to win their fourth championship in five seasons.

2 Liverpool
Manager: Roy Evans
Last season: 3rd
Last season Liverpool passed the ball sweetly, but an inclination to rest on their own coast

3 Aston Villa
Manager: Brian Little
Last season: 4th
Little's transformation of Villa was one of the better achievements of last season.

4 Newcastle Utd
Manager: Kevin Keegan
Last season: 2nd
Predicting fourth place for Keegan's team would be heresy on Tyneside but, as the Charity Shield demonstrated, the arrival of Shearer will not hide the defensive flaws, especially at full-back, which led to Newcastle's failure last time.

5 Everton
Manager: Joe Royle
Last season: 6th
Royle is steadily getting things together at Goodison and though Everton may not be champions in the making they could win something this time.

6 Tottenham
Manager: Gerry Francis
Last season: 8th
Francis is adept at making the best of what he has got, and with an attack including Anderson, Sheringham and Armstrong

7 Arsenal
Manager: Arsène Wenger
Last season: 6th
Uncertainties off the field can easily lead to dressing-room unrest if the team make a bad start.

8 Blackburn
Manager: Ray Harford
Last season: 7th
Rovers may have received £15 million for Shearer but money, in the era of Jack Walker, was never a problem.

9 Chelsea
Manager: Roud Gullit
Last season: 11th
Vialli for Furlong, thoroughbred for journeyman, seems a fair exchange and already Leboeuf is looking one of the summer's better imports.

10 Nottm Forest
Manager: Frank Clark
Last season: 6th
The arrival of Dean Saunders should restore to Clark's attack something of the cutting edge it lost when Coffey departed for Liverpool.

11 Middlesbrough
Manager: Bryan Robson
Last season: 12th
After a strong start last season Middlesbrough stopped defending, slid rapidly down the table and eventually finished only five points off relegation.

12 Leeds United
Manager: Howard Wilkinson
Last season: 13th
New owners and a fresh injection of money have given Wilkinson greater clout in the market, and he will not stop with Martyn, Bowyer and Sharpe.

13 Coventry City
Manager: Ron Atkinson
Last season: 16th
Doubling the Croatian intake, with Asanovic joining Stimac, should help Jim Smith's team cope with the widening gap between First Division and Premiership.

14 West Ham Utd
Manager: Harry Redknapp
Last season: 10th
West Ham used to think they had made a foreign signing if they bought somebody from north of Watford.

15 Wimbledon
Manager: Joe Kinnear
Last season: 14th
Wimbledon will begin to worry if nobody predicts their demise this time.

16 Sunderland
Manager: Peter Reid
Last season: promoted
Sunderland will surely struggle but they may not do so in vain.

17 Derby County
Manager: Jim Smith
Last season: promoted
Doubling the Croatian intake, with Asanovic joining Stimac, should help Jim Smith's team cope with the widening gap between First Division and Premiership.

18 Sheffield Wed
Manager: David Pleat
Last season: 16th
If a big name is to go this time it could be Wednesday, who nearly fell through the trapdoor last season.

19 Southampton
Manager: Graeme Souness
Last season: 17th
Souness signed up his new charges for some army training and will not hesitate to put Le Tissier on jankers if he feels the player is malingering.

20 Leicester City
Manager: Martin O'Neill
Last season: promoted
Leicester decided some time ago that they were a First Division club who would spend the old season in the Premiership.

Advertisement for WSC (When Saturday Comes) magazine, featuring a soccer ball and the text 'THE HALF DECENT FOOTBALL MAGAZINE - ON SALE NOW - ONLY £1.50'

NATIONWIDE LEAGUE: Michael Walker on the prospects for the underprivileged Rocky road to the promised land

WITH a fine disregard for the art of understatement Alan Ball, the manager of Manchester City, this week declared that after last season's relegation "I am on the cross" for the next few months.

with no replacements bought, their fans must be concerned about the usefulness of money in the bank.

opened with the Russians Kulikov and Yuran and gone back to Kirkcaldy for Raith's Davie Sinclair, Steve Crawford and Jason Dair.

Punishment for Brighton is put on back burner

BRIGHTON were yesterday found guilty by the Football Association of failing to control their crowd after trouble flared during the match against York City on April 27.

Stand up Ram Wallace, the teacher who told the young Alan Shearer he would never make the grade as a footballer. He offered the same career advice to a young guitarist who also wanted to turn professional. His name? Mark Knopfler.

HARD to believe, but someone has started a Clive Tyldesley fan club. Look, this column is not condoning it, just reporting the facts.

Dress than ideal

Soccer Diary

Martin Thorpe

SO THE tan's peeling. Sed down, and off we go for another nine months of trying to balance six cups of steaming tea on the lid of a Wagon Wheel box.

It is difficult to know what the club have against denim. All the Leicester City press officer Paul Macey keeps replying to the question is "It is part of the dress code for that area of the ground."

A THOUGHT for this, the season of the wealth gap: "Money is like muck, not good except if it be spread" - Francis Bacon, 1561-1626.

CHANT of the pre-season: "Four-one to the Ingerland". Exeter fans greeting Ruud Gullit in Chelsea's friendly at St James' Park.

BIG MAL is back. Century Radio has reinstated Malcolm Allison as a summariser after showing him the red card last season for using the F-word on air when Newcastle's Les Ferdinand scored the winner against Big Mal's old club Middlesbrough.

ALLISON had already angered the station bosses with a derogatory comment about Catholics during Middlesbrough's game with Manchester United. "I've promised to clean up my act," says Allison. "If I get frustrated again I'll just have to use hand signals."

According to John Simons, the programme director: "Big Mal said what every fan thought when the goal went in. It was just unfortunate that his microphone was at the time."

CANT quite imagine it really: "Ol, assistant referee. You effing blind or what?"

EATING humble pie. When Steve Jones re-signed for West Ham he told his manager Harry Redknapp: "A clean up to get out of Bournemouth. This restaurant, Lorenzo's, is after me for leaving without paying."

"Really?" replied Redknapp, a former Bournemouth manager. "I own that restaurant."

FUNNY, the mixed messages society gives out about alcohol. The day after Glasgow banned drinking in the street, Celtic yesterday launched their own beer. No, it is not called Green Stripe.

STAND UP Ram Wallace, the teacher who told the young Alan Shearer he would never make the grade as a footballer. He offered the same career advice to a young guitarist who also wanted to turn professional. His name? Mark Knopfler.

HARD to believe, but someone has started a Clive Tyldesley fan club. Look, this column is not condoning it, just reporting the facts.

FRANCE LEBOEUF has no problem communicating given all the foreigners at Chelsea. "I've had dinner with Vialli a few times and though we murder the English language we can understand one another. The same goes for Di Matteo." Leboeuf's problem lies elsewhere. "I cannot understand a single word of Dennis Wise. You need a decoder to make sense of what he is saying."

AND finally, why are the Arsenal board like the crew of Apollo 13? Because every time they have a problem they call Houston.

# Sports Guardian

PREMIERSHIP KICKS OFF AFTER £100 MILLION SUMMER ENRICHMENT

## Money men face moment of truth

David Lacey

**A**FTER a mountain of hype and deafening hullabaloo, English football will begin to put things into better perspective today when the leagues take over from leg-stretching friendlies.

The Premiership alone has paid out about £100 million in transfer fees and its clubs are about to learn the wisdom of a spendthrift summer.

Nowhere will the anxiety of anticipation be more acute than among Newcastle United supporters at Goodison Park where Alan Shearer, who became the world's most expensive footballer when he moved to Tyneside from Blackburn for £15 million, will trust that last Sunday's 4-0 defeat by Manchester United in the FA Charity Shield was merely a hiccup.

Middlesbrough's £7 million signing from Juventus, the silver-haired Fabrizio Ravanelli, faces a knee operation at the Riverside Stadium along with Emerson, a £4 million snip from Porto who has joined Juninho and Branco in Tyneside's Brazilian colony. Juninho, recovered from the knee injury he suffered in the Olympics, is expected to be Chelsea's new man, the Italian Gianluca Vialli and Roberto Di Matteo and the Frenchman Franck Leboeuf, face Graeme Souness's Southampton at the Dell tomorrow.

Dean Saunders, who was with Souness at Galatasaray, is set to lead Nottingham Forest's attack at Coventry today.

Leeds United, in need of a good start after last season's decline, have Nigel Martyn, the former Crystal Palace goalkeeper, Ian Rush, Lee Bowyer and Lee Sharpe available for the visit to newly promoted Derby County. Rush came from Anfield on a free

transfer but the other three represent an outlay of nearly £9 million.

Not that Howard Wilkinson's problems are over. Having lost Gary McAllister and Gary Speed to Coventry and Everton, he is now without Yehosh, Dorigo and Pemberton because of injuries.

The summer buying has been frenetic but a calf strain is still a calf strain and a number of new signings are nursing injuries.

Florin Raducioiu, West Ham's £3.4 million signing from Espanyol, has a calf problem and misses this afternoon's game against managerless Arsenal at Highbury. Fernando Nelson, Aston Villa's recruit from Sporting Lisbon, is a casualty at Hillsborough and Sasa Curcic, for whom Brian Little paid Bolton £4 million, has yet to receive a work permit.

Tottenham await the arrival of Allan Nielsen from Brondby and will be without Dean Austin at Wood Park after a knee operation. Kevin Gallacher and Graham Fenton are expected to lead Blackburn's attack.

Manchester United, who open their title defence against Wimbledon at Selhurst Park, will be at full strength if Ryan Giggs, Roy Keane and Nicky Butt shake off minor niggles. Karel Poborsky and Jordi Cruyff may stay on the bench. Roy Evans is not expected to draft Patrick Berger, his £3.25 million Czech, straight into the Liverpool side at Middlesbrough.

Nor is there likely to be an immediate sighting of Arsenal's two Frenchmen, Patrick Vieira and Remy Garde, against West Ham; and a third, Arsene Wenger, who everybody assumes will succeed the dismissed Bruce Rioch, is still in Japan.

Steve Lomas got the goal midway through the first half as City did at the first attempt



Georgian style... Manchester City's Georgi Kinkladze weaves his way through the Ipswich midfield to set up another attack at Maine Road last night. PHOTOGRAPH: MICHAEL STELLI

First Division: Manchester City 1, Ipswich Town 0

## City take first step on the long road back

Michael Walker

**W**UTROP/THEY'RE off. It may have been a Friday night and it may still be the middle of August but the English football season is again in motion. Six days after the Scots started their league campaign Manchester City defeated Ipswich Town 1-0 at Maine Road last night and set the renamed Nationwide League off and running.

Steve Lomas got the goal midway through the first half as City did at the first attempt

what took three months last year: win a game at home. They did it with 10 men for half an hour in front of a big crowd, 29,126.

Away from Moss Side, though, the news is not as significant as the when and why. Football on a Friday night will become the norm because of Sky TV's deal with the Football League.

Television, more than ever, dictates the season's schedule and the game will be on the screen six days a week from now until May 26, when the play-offs finish. Thursdays

will provide the one night off and, when Saturday comes, men may beg to go shopping with their wives. Yet, despite the looming over-exposure, rarely can a season have been so keenly anticipated.

Even before it had begun, however, it seemed Ipswich were determined to stifle euphoria. Having been the Division's top scorers last year, and scoring more away than City managed altogether, Ipswich named two keepers in their starting XI.

Only young Wright emerged but in the first min-

ute, after Kinkladze had left two Ipswich midfielders trailing and linked up with his fellow Georgian Kavelashvili, it seemed that Ipswich might need two keepers. They took the inevitable early surge by City, though, and could have gone ahead in the 20th minute had Tarico contrived a better finish from Sedgley's composed move forward.

Two minutes later they were one down and the season had its first goal. Lomas was the scorer and he jumped strongly to head in from two yards. But the credit belonged

to the creator. Collecting the ball on the left, Kinkladze jinked his way past three challengers before clipping in a cross too inviting to miss.

Lomas declined a £3 million transfer to Wimbledon in the summer and, while City could do with the money, Lomas and Kinkladze could be worth their weight in season tickets a year hence.

City's defence is another matter. Consistently stretched in the first half by Ipswich's two Dutchmen, Ulfenbeck and Petis, the new arrival from Feyenoord, they

continued to look fragile when Ipswich exerted pressure after the break.

Sure enough they cracked past the hour when Frontczek was exposed by Marshall's pass to Mason, who tumbled under the German's challenge. As Mason was clean through, the referee Hedbrorn sent Frontczek off.

Manchester City (innal): Brightwell, Frontczek, Symons, Brown, Sumner, Lomas, Phillips (Hilly, 87 min), Kavelashvili, Kinkladze, Foster.

Ipswich: Wright, Sedgley, Tidman, Vaughan (Mathie, 87), Brockwell, Ulfenbeck, Tarico, Williams, Mason, Marshall, Petis.

Referee: T. Holliday (Newport Apatley).

Women's British Open Championship

## Klein in her seven-league spikes

David Davies at Woburn

**E**MILIEE KLEIN, "feeding off the momentum" as she put it, had a second-round 65 in the Woburn Women's British Open here yesterday. It took her two-round total to 134, 12 under par, and meant that, as she had played the last two rounds in the American tournament she won last week in 68, 65, she was 23 under par for her last 72 holes.

Yesterday's round gave her a five-shot lead over Alison Nicholas, Karrie Webb and Annika Sorenstam and puts her recent strike rate for birdies at around one every three holes. This, it seems, is around her strike rate when shopping for shoes, a pair every three shops, for she cheerfully confessed yesterday that she had a fetish about them and was "closing on Imelda Marcos".

This week, being overseas, the American has restricted herself to travelling with 12 pairs, but her golf remains unaffected. Klein, like Webb and Sorenstam, belongs to the minimalist school of golf, both in physique — 5ft 4in and 8st 9lb — and in her

swing which, like the mills of God, grinds enviably slow and exceeding sure.

She takes an age to get to the top of her backswing — John Daly would have hit and been off the front end of the tee by the time she gets there — but finding fairways is no problem at all. So far this season she has hit 738 out of the 936 she has aimed at.

Klein is another who, like Jenny Lidback who had a 68 on Thursday, has abandoned the long irons and instead carries a seven- and nine-wood. "They are just so much easier to hit," she says. The seven-wood goes around 180 yards, the nine around 165 and she prefers them even for those shots out of the rough which traditionally have been sold to need the Harcor cutting edge of an iron.

"I don't hit the ball high enough with a three- or four-iron," she says. "So I hit the iron on the greens. If I hit the iron on to the greens, which is chancier." Klein birdied yesterday, one of them, the 175-yard 11th, with the nine-wood, and had four more birdies besides.

None of the leaders has an imposing physical presence

but Klein looks positively fragile, a fragility that engenders protectiveness and a feeling that she ought to cross the road only with a lollipop lady on hand. But the others are not fooled. Nicholas said of her: "This is a tough course but she hasn't realised it yet. In fact she might never."

Laura Davies, disgusted with herself, said shortly:

"She hits it dead straight and holes lots of putts, which is perfect for round here, so her lead is no surprise." On being told she was 11 behind Klein she said: "I'd need 10 more rounds and a different course to make that up."

Davies made the cut, but only just, and launched into some familiar complaints about Woburn. "This course scares me too much," she said. "I'm terrified on every shot. It's no coincidence that I've not had a good British Open here. It's totally my fault. I know that, but I just know I can't play the course. It's been two days of misery as far as I'm concerned."

The event goes walkabout after this year. Next year it will be played at Sunningdale, not a notably more open course, and the year after that at Royal Lytham & St Annes, where at least there are hardly any trees to worry about. It comes back to Woburn in 1999 and then goes to Royal Birkdale.

Davies said before the event started this week that this was the one tournament she really would wish to have on her record before she was finished, so it might pay her to make a few preliminary visits to Lytham and Birkdale,

where her biggest asset, her power, will not also be her biggest problem.

Webb, as befits the season she is having, was quietly confident about the chase in rounds and a different course to make that up."

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Klein... five shots clear

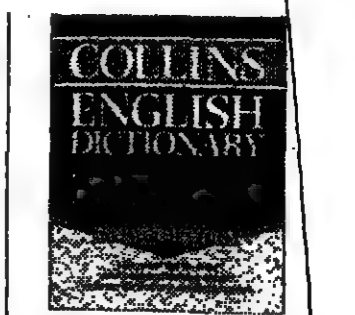
Guardian COLLINS Crossword 20,734

A copy of the Collins English Dictionary will be sent to the first five correct entries drawn. Entries to Guardian Crossword No 20,734, P.O. Box 315, Mitcham, Surrey CR4 2AX, by first post on Friday, August 16 and winners in the Guardian on Monday August 26.

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- 11 Part of seat where one lays down one's guns? (3-4)
- 12 Sudden deflation will produce happy ending after 15 in play (4,4)
- 13 Route to Oz John beds farewell (5,5,4)
- 14 See a way a sec on a hill may provide trade warning (6)
- 15 Everyone gets fatter — it's OK before 5 in play (4,4)
- 16 Vitality includes a booming sound (8)
- 17 Saw the dog in the lead (7)
- 18 I'll support term that is unsettling some professors (7)
- 19 Poet's uninteresting retreat (8)
- 20 Doc perhaps enlisted by World War forces (5)

- Set by Enigmatist
- 19 See 13
- 21 Plants half-hearted old lawman (5)
- 22 Two ways of deciphering around 500 all right (4-5)
- 23 Square framework topped off with energy (7)
- 24 Awkwardly situated — except, perhaps, for catching rabbits? (2,1,4)
- 25 Filled in — setad on French cheese? (4-7)
- Down
- 1 Rang in live with ship personnel — I'll raise water (10,5)
- 2 Silly one leaving port (5)
- 3 16 across traveller, and

**It is now impossible to see royalty as anything more than human. And a sense that they are more than human is the only way of accepting their superhuman status.**

Jeremy Hardy

**Outlook page 14**

كلمة اليوم

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# The Guardian Outlook

**This is Clare Moorhead. She was three when she was killed by half a ton of metal outside her home, one of 25 million people — 500,000 of them Britons — killed by cars in the last 100 years. The statistics could not be more stark. More have died on the roads than in all of Europe's plagues and more than by genocide, famine or nuclear explosion. Cars kill more people than murders, suicide or disease. One British child in 15 is killed or injured on the roads by their mid-teens — ten people will die today. Yet no other form of death is taken so lightly or thought so acceptable.**  
**JOANNA MOORHEAD remembers her sister and asks . . .**

## Will you kill a child today?

I DIDN'T hear the bang that ended Clare's life because I was down the road, playing at my friend Elspeth's house. It wasn't until my sister Anne ran down the drive to tell me the news that I found out. Anne was breathless and could hardly get the words out, but we could tell by her face that something terrible had happened. "It's Clare," she said. "She's been run over. Mummy says you're to come straight home."

Clare was three years old, the youngest of our family. Anne was eight, I was nearly 10, and Mark was six. Just a few hours earlier, on a sunny July morning, we'd all been playing together in our back garden. There had been the usual fights and quarrels, the usual noise, the usual fun. Looking back, it was one of those days that seems to sum

up all that is happy and secure about childhood. Except that for us, childhood was about to end; we would never feel entirely safe again.

By the time I arrived at our gate, Clare had already been placed on a stretcher. I think that was the moment when I realised how serious it all was, that sometimes terrible events happened that nobody could control.

Clare died 20 hours later. Most of the time she spent in hospital she was alone as my parents were encouraged to come home and wait by the telephone rather than at her bedside. So my little sister spent her last night surrounded by white-coated strangers. Even at a distance of 24 years, the anger still burns when I think of Clare that night. I hug my little daughters fiercely and pray they will

never know the terror and loneliness she must have felt.

My daughters are four and two, and through them I remember Clare and the little person she was. Like Rosie and Elinor, the nieces she would never know, Clare was bubbly and bright and pretty and cute. She was stubborn, too, and though she was the youngest of the four of us, she was smart enough sometimes to get her own back.

One morning a few weeks before she died, she somehow managed to pack Mark into a suitcase and close the lid. My father heard the ensuing commotion and opened the lid to release a panicky Mark, who had realised his little sister didn't intend always to be the victim.

But she had no chance against the car that killed her. Like most pedestrians who die

or are injured on the roads, she was simply tossed into the air like a rag doll.

Today sees the 100th anniversary of the very first of those tragedies, the death of Bridget Driscoll of Croydon, south London.

On August 17 1896, Driscoll, a labourer's wife, aged 44, was on her way to the annual fête of a Catholic temperance society in Crystal Palace. She was crossing a road near the entrance of the palace with her teenage daughter and two friends when three cars giving public demonstration rides rounded a bend. Driscoll was struck by the last car and died quickly from head injuries. Witnesses reported that the driver had been zig-zagging at high speed to show off to his girlfriend, but an inquest returned a verdict of "accidental death".

Relatives and friends who have lost loved ones in road deaths will reflect on the Driscoll case this afternoon as they hold a silent vigil at the spot at which she died. For the Driscoll case set a precedent that still persists — the most commonly returned inquest verdict for road deaths continues to be "accidental death".

For Joanne Browning, who lost her five-month-old daughter Alice in a car crash two years ago, most road deaths are nothing of the sort. They're labelled accidents as though nobody was doing anything wrong, but in the vast majority of cases the driver was going too fast, or went through a red light, or ignored a road sign.

Alice was in a child safety seat, but it didn't save her. In my family's case, the driver who killed Clare was reading his map book instead of looking at the road ahead. If he had been driving just a little more carefully, I would now have a 27-year-old sister.

Joanne Browning is an active member of RoadPeace, the national charity for road traffic victims. She believes we've all grown to accept what she calls "road carnage" as a regrettable but necessary by-product of our reliance on cars. But it doesn't have to be that way.

Death due to drinking and driving has been reduced dramatically over the past decade, but only one in seven road deaths fits into this category. Most are caused by carelessness, inattention or flouting of road regulations.

Britain is the only country in Europe where a death can be completely disregarded in deciding whether to charge a motorist. In many cases the victim's name is not even mentioned in court at the ensuing proceedings.

Expressed as a risk, road death is by far the biggest threat to all our lives. Yet while we rightly worry over guns and drugs, the slow haemorrhage caused by traffic "accidents" passes us by.

Why do we all take this matter-of-fact attitude to the loss of so many people on our roads? Why do we all think the onus is on us as pedestrians to keep ourselves safe, rather than on us as drivers to ensure we are not dangerous?

Over the past two decades I've thought only occasionally about Clare, pictured the little grave in a Manchester cemetery that we used to visit but don't any more. But over the past four years, since my own children were born, I've thought about her a lot.

I've mourned her anew partly because I've realised exactly how much we lost when that car hit her and partly as I've feared losing my daughters in the same way.

Once or twice recently I've heard a car screeching past and felt like running out into the street like John Irving's Garp, outraged that anyone could be driving so recklessly.

If someone in your family ended up under a car's wheels, wouldn't you want to do the same?

RoadPeace can be contacted on 0181-964 1021. Its march begins at Gypsy Hill Station, south London, at 1.45pm today.



Most of the time she spent in hospital she was alone as my parents were encouraged to come home and wait rather than be at her bedside. So she spent her last night surrounded by strangers'

**POWER**

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CLASSIC fm 100-102



# Josh advises a multinational company on what's cool. He is nearly at the end of his working life. Josh is 13

## IAN KATZ on the kids on the make as researchers and product developers for the billion-dollar American youth market

**R**YAN HURLEY is in the ideas business. He has been working with a bicycle manufacturer and a confectionery company. He is in the early stages of developing a magnet-driven "hover-bike" and is doing some thinking about spray-on tattoos. Hurley will have to scale back his product development work later this month; in two weeks the summer holidays will be over and he will be back at school. He's 11.

The suburban Chicagoan is one of many American children topping up their allowances by advising major corporations on what products will appeal to their peers. "I just give them really cool ideas that kids would like and stuff that I draw up, like inventions and stuff," explains Hurley, who regularly attends brainstorming sessions organised by Doyle Research Associates, a Chicago-based market research firm.

With American children aged 12-19 spending more than \$100 billion a year, companies are trying harder than ever to find out what kids want — so that they can then sell it to them. In some areas, school buses are bedecked with ads for hamburger chains and fizzy drinks, while a special cable TV channel pipes ads for kid-related products straight into 12,000 of the country's 110,000 schools.

Peter Zollo, president of

Teenage Research Unlimited, says big companies are soliciting the opinions of their young target customers more assiduously and taking them more seriously. "Some companies with big kid products had never talked to kids. That is changing."

Zollo's company maintains panels of teenagers ready to give their opinions on different products. For jeans, its researchers look for kids who follow fashion and, more importantly, are followed by their peers. "We'll go to a bunch of kids and say, 'Who's the coolest kid you know?'"

A number of American companies have effectively cut out the middlemen of market research firms and recruited their own "consultants". The computer software giant Microsoft runs a programme called Kid's Council, through which it taps the opinions of a panel of local schoolchildren. The kids meet weekly at the company's "campus" outside Seattle to suggest ideas for new products and discuss the way they use computers and the Internet. In exchange they get Microsoft goodies and an invitation to an annual party.

"We basically, like, advised Microsoft about the kind of things to do," says Andrew Cooledge, aged 11, one of the company's consultants. Cooledge suggested the company make more games that appeal to both boys and girls — "they're basically violent games for boys or cutesy little

games for girls" — and also advised Microsoft to emulate some shareware programmes, software cheaply distributed via the Internet.

For his ideas, and for appearing in a Microsoft promotional film, he got "this really cool backpack", some free computer software and \$250. As part of the programme, he signed a contract relinquishing any royalties to products developed from his ideas. "I think it's a little unfair if we give them the idea for this programme that makes them billions of dollars."

Most companies still tap the opinion of young consumers through market research firms which specialise in supplying articulate and creative kids for product-testing or brainstorming sessions. Doyle Research Associates, for instance, provides a service called "kideation" in which, as senior researcher Tom McGee puts it, children "are used as the springboard to get people looking at things from a kid's perspective". The children get between \$50 and \$75 for attending each two-hour session.

At first, Matt Faden, 12, found the "magnum" where Doyle conducts its sessions "kind of cheesy". The room was filled with banners bearing different words and multi-coloured chairs. He and the other children were encouraged to play games to get them into "a creative mood" and were then given large



Joshua Koplewicz, Levi Strauss consultant ... 'I'm a very good anticipator'

PHOTOGRAPH BY RICHARD POHLE

papers on which they were told to write down anything they thought, however off the wall. Faden wasn't overwhelmed by his fellow brainstormers. "The kind of ideas they bring in there are creative but they're like the kind of kids you don't really want to be around. We had to talk about what our hobbies were and one of these kids said his was watching TV while eating hot, buttery popcorn."

But he has continued to participate in the sessions, attracted by the \$30-40 paycheque for each. Recently he has been specialising in cereals, an area in which he

already has considerable expertise. He has come up with ideas for cookies and cream cereal, a chocolate and peanut butter variation and "one that you don't know the flavour of until you bite into it."

In general, he says, companies show a poor understanding of what appeals to children. "They just find out what TV cartoon shows are doing well and slap the name of the show on the box, but kids just want something that tastes good, they really don't care if it says Garfield on it like they did when they were five."

Unlike Faden, Hurley says he would offer his consulting

services even if he were not paid for it. He's always had loads of ideas, he says, and it's fun to tell people about them.

"They wanted me to draw a diagram of a bike and it had all these cool things on it and it was really funky and they really liked me. His mother says Hurley first began spouting ideas at the age of four when he would advise her on ways to "consolidate" her housework. By five, he was scribbling drawings in his Thinking Journal. Each of the three Hurley children keeps a Thinking Journal and a Feelings Journal, in which they jot down reactions to the

"value of the month" discussed at the family's monthly conference.

Hurley says his friends envy his lucrative sideline but he tries not to boast about it at school, though he did appear once on a daytime chat show discussing his unusual job.

"They really liked me. He is saving his earnings 'for college'" and says he is going to be a doctor, "and also an inventor and an artist. That's my main idea."

Joshua Koplewicz nurses rather more modest ambitions. "I wanna make a big difference in the world," he explains matter-of-factly. "I

wanna make a change that people will read about in text books 100 years from now and say, 'That was an amazing change'."

The smooth-talking 13-year-old may already have done a lot to change the way the world looks — or at least dresses. For the past three years, he has worked as a consultant to Levi Strauss, regularly passing the jeans company intelligence on "what's in and what's out and what kind of things kids want."

The oldest son of a New York psychiatrist and an artist, Koplewicz always seemed to be a few months ahead of the next trend. A few years ago he started wearing Stuci surf wear to school "because I could see it was getting popular with the older kids. Within a few months some of the 'more stylish kids' in his class were wearing Stuci; by the next autumn term everyone was wearing it. By then, of course, Koplewicz, aged 10, had moved on. "For some reason I just have a taste of what's in or out. I have no particular theory of why, I guess it's just in my blood. I'm a very good anticipator."

Levi Strauss has used his keen sense of style three years ago after he was invited to one of the company's focus groups by a friend who worked in market research. Koplewicz was interviewed by a Levi's executive who asked him 100 questions ranging from "the smallest details about brand

He has come up with a cookies and cream cereal and one you don't know the flavour of until you bite into it

labels or where a button or pocket is to what kind of sports are cool to play." The company was sufficiently impressed with his answers to hire him to carry out a number of research assignments every year.

Typically, he says, the firm would send him a notebook, a disposable camera and tape recorder and he would be told to do the city photography and interviewing and he would be considered to be cool. He was also told to write imaginary letters to "a kid in Russia about what kinds of style are in and what are out and what kinds of things kids do and what they don't."

After each assignment, a Levi's executive would visit his family's Manhattan apartment to review his notebooks and listen to his interviews. Then they would rifle through his wardrobe, grilling him on why he chose particular garments and quizzing him on when and where he would wear them.

It was hard work but it paid handsomely. For around 20 hours' work, Koplewicz would typically collect between \$100 and \$120, around 10 times his weekly allowance. The job came with little security. "When someone from the company called with an assignment, Koplewicz says, they usually warned that if he did not return their call within 24 hours he would be fired."

"They were pretty hunk. When the company asked him to recommend two stylish kids three years younger than himself earlier this year, he could see the writing on the wall. 'I haven't been officially fired or downgraded or whatever, but they haven't really given me a call in a while. I think I'm too old.'"

### Writer/director Guy Jenkin made his career lampooning politicians on Spitting Image and Drop The Dead Donkey, but recent events put the Tories beyond satire. In his latest drama it's the turn of New Labour to feel the lash of his scabrous wit, he tells PETER LENNON

## The man who shot Bambi

**W**HAT preparation do you need for making a satire on New Labour? A study of Cromwell is helpful, according to writer-director Guy Jenkin, who is currently making Crossing The Floor, a BBC television drama about the return of New Labour.

Jenkin studied Cromwell at Cambridge. "His diaries tell how he had these immense battles with his conscience — with God almost about what he should do — should make next. Yet he always came back to the political, pragmatic decision and decided that was what God wanted."

We were on the set of Crossing The Floor. The plot-line encapsulates the Toryisation of the Labour Party: a Tory home secretary, about to be shafted by his party, crosses the floor of the House and is worked over by New Labour spin doctors.

The image of Pecksniffian Michael Howard being massaged by Mandelson is enough to bring a happy glow of anticipation. The

connection is inescapable since David Hanratty, the fictional home secretary, is played by Tom Wilkinson, who played Pecksniff in BBC's adaptation of Martin Chuzzlewit and also starred in Jenkin's A Very Open Prison, a tale of penitential catastrophe.

Satire programmes have been routinely peppered with Blair jokes and stand-up comedians mechanically do their lame duty by sanitised Labour, but this is the first full-length play to set its sights on the party. Why did it take so long for Blair to become a target? Partly because the Tories offer more tempting material. A logistical reason is that it normally takes two years from concept to transmission for a full-length drama.

Jenkin, co-producer and co-writer of Drop The Dead Donkey, is well aware that he will be accused of damaging Labour. "But people have been writing stories about the Tories for 17 years with noticeably little effect," he said. "I think if you



Action man ... Jenkin, right, on the set of Crossing The Floor

PHOTOGRAPH BY MARTIN GOODWIN

want to change the world you would not be a writer — you go into politics."

He could think of only one case in which satire unquestionably had effect, and that was the Spitting Image puppet of David Steel in the pocket of David Owen. Jenkin, who was one of that programme's original writers, revealed that this came about by accident. They only had a little puppet of Steel so at first they simply held him closer to the camera. But then they got fed up and dumped him in Owen's pocket. The effect was devastating, and some say permanently damaging, for the leader of the Liberal Party.

On the set, David Han-

ratty the former home secretary, is responding to tuition from a spin doctor. "Oh you mean I should be like Tom, the wonder boy, and permanently walk around with a riems-like grin on my face as if I've got a pineapple stuffed up my arse?" The young acolytes freeze as their Leader (Neil Pearson from Drop The Dead Donkey) is observed coming out of the shadows. A line in the script introduces him: "The young, charismatic, handsome and only very slightly demented Tom Peel."

He gives Hanratty a doctrinal homily written long before Clare Short ruminated aloud on split personality. "If we choose to be po-

liticians we have a duty to suppress many of our inclinations in order to transform ourselves into the perfect candidate, whatever stress or strain, or tension or bizarre hallucinogenic visions it causes in our private lives." The story goes from gracelessness to treachery, at which point Jenkin introduces that "additional element" which he hopes carries comedy to a higher level: the scheming and dodging collapses in tragedy — a death in the family tests the threadbare remnants of Hanratty's decency.

Although Jenkin's training was in satire shows — he started his career in Radio 4's Week Ending and went

on to Spitting Image — he resists the description "satire" because, he says, "You get an awful lot of baggage that goes with that word. I suppose I think that satire is often an excuse for things which should be funny but are not. I would call my films political comedies."

His antecedents are less Alan Fletch than Preston Sturges. His Lord Of Misrule (in which a billious, dying Lord Chancellor offers his scabrous memoirs to the Sun, shown earlier this year) had the Sturges characteristic of a situation going from mild unravelling to frenzied, controlled, farce.

Jenkin, 41, lanky, courteous, with an expression which veers between the thoughtful academic and the apologetic hound dog, has been a considerable name in scriptwriting for years and has won many awards. It was only last year when he started directing that his name began to be known outside the industry. Now his career is rocketing. He has done a film adaptation of Chekov's The Wood Demon, soon to be filmed in Costa Rica, and written a gangster movie about the Russian mafia, After Midnight, which will be in production soon.

He got into direction by default, but very much by inclination. After a long delay, the script for A Very Open Prison was given the go-ahead, but only if shooting began within 10 days. Jenkin suggested that since they could hardly find a decent director available at such short notice, he might as well do it — and one of the most promising directorial careers for some time was launched. "I now feel," he says, "that doing the script

and not directing is like writing the first draft of a novel and leaving someone else to write the second."

Was Jenkin gratified by Clare Short's outburst (which happened while he was editing Crossing The Floor)? "It is not very encouraging in real life," he says, "but it's encouraging that the changes in politics that have taken place since I wrote five months ago have made the story more plausible. Interestingly, Short was talking about not only the gyrations they have to go through but how it seems to have affected Tony Blair. Certainly, if you have to think about your image every hour of

every day to make sure you don't make a slip, have to be prepared by different people, to be told you must not wear this tie, it is almost like being a secret agent living a double life.

"I think this probably does damage people's lives. We are at the stage of the perfectly glibly ruled by the completely fucked."

Jenkin admits he gets depressed now about the state of politics. "What does it take to make someone resign these days?" he said. "Sodomising the Queen Mother, perhaps?"

Crossing The Floor will be shown on BBC2 in October.

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# Cyprus left to bleed alone

CYPRUS is not divided because Turkish Cypriots and Greek Cypriots could not live peacefully together (Deadly Games on the Green Line, August 13). It is divided because "shadowy" British and US planners decided that the establishment of a sovereign unitary state would run counter to long-term Western strategic interests in the region and because Athens and Ankara were allowed to pursue their own nationalistic objectives in the island.

Decolonisation came through the foreign imposition of a flawed constitution which promoted the idea of communal separation and which was highly vulnerable to both internal and external subversion. The UN presence has preserved (through the Green Line) an inequitable division of the island and thereby safeguarded foreign strategic interests to the detriment of those of the Cypriots.

M Packard,  
Former UK and UN mediating officer in Cyprus,  
Stable Cottage,  
Northside,  
Steeple Aston,  
Bicester OX6 3SE.

I AM astonished at the apparently passive reception of recent events in Cyprus by the Government and Opposition.

When Turkish crowds are permitted to beat a Greek Cypriot citizen to death in full view of the world's media and another is shot dead one would have expected officials at least to question the pretence of the Turkish government to be improving its record on human rights.

I have seen no comments from the Foreign Office upon the fitness of this nation to be admitted to the EU or any condemnation of the Turkish state's response to legitimate protest.

Tina Petrou,  
23 Highbury Grove,  
London N5 2DQ.

## Gunning for prosecutions

OWN neither a hand-gun nor a Firearms Certificate, so any legislation of the nature of the hand-gun ban proposed by Mr Mullin will not affect me (Gun lobby on the run, August 14). Writing as a lawyer, however, I am alarmed that Chris Mullin either does not know, or chooses to ignore as not fitting his thesis, the fact that airguns are legally firearms. They are subject to the same restrictions as any other firearm with the sole exception that owners of low powered models are not required to hold a Firearms Certificate.

As a victim of airgun crime myself, what I would like to see is not another law for these yobs to flout with impunity but prosecutions. Making all airguns subject to a Firearms Certificate will just create a vast pool of illegally held airguns that can only be used for crime and vandalism. I think it would be better by far to use the money that would otherwise be spent on creating a vast bureaucracy to prosecute airgun crime as a priority. This is likely to do more to reduce Mr Mullin's

perceived "Gun Culture" than any ban.

Alan Fairhurst,  
26 Church Lane,  
Prestwich,  
Manchester M25 1AJ.

CARS are killing more people worldwide than guns, legally held or otherwise — even including several wars. Nuclear weapons, so far, have not killed more than one year of car-kil. To ban or even restrict cars is unthinkable. We're banning handguns, airguns too, we may even ban tobacco. Tell me, where is the really effective and sinister danger? What is the real danger? Matthew Spencer,  
Rosemunda Cottage,  
26 Shefford Road,  
Clifton, Shefford,  
Bedfordshire SG17 5RG.

I SUGGEST that all those who need hand-guns as tools should be compensated by re-introducing the pea-shooter. Gordon Rudlin,  
Beech Glade,  
Stonesfield,  
Witney OX8 9QB.



## Eyes of the demented

I HAVE yet to see the new "demonized" Tony Blair poster but if the "two eyes behind a curtain" advertisement is anything to go by, the visual message will be both confused and confusing. The viewer is reminded immediately of the "reds under the bed" scare-tactics of the 1950s US administration. I am surprised that Conservative Central Office wishes to be associated with the McCarthy witch-trials. But looking closer, the use of a theatre curtain being drawn back to reveal two eyes implies the start of a public performance to be enjoyed by the viewer. Does Central Office think of government solely in terms of public entertainment for the voters as a passive audience? What is revealed are two red eyes which I can only think represent members of the Shadow Cabinet jetting across the Atlantic, to talk meaningfully with the great and the good in North America.

Dr Patricia Baker,  
2 Ubbourne Mews,  
Carroun Road,  
London SW8.

## Lodging doubts

ONE would expect a chairman of the Criminal Cases Review Commission to be astute, and to have excellent ability to absorb and appreciate the significance of detail.

If Sir Frederick Crawford (Justice commission chief) is the mason, August 15 can join the Royal Arch, and rise to the office of Junior Grand Warden without, according to a Freemason spokesman, having necessarily read or appreciated a key membership vow, how will he cope with the minutiae of complicated criminal appeals?

Gary Slepner (Dr),  
Stonewall University,  
Leek Road,  
Stoke on Trent ST4 2DF.

I AM not a member of Royal Arch so cannot comment on your extract from the alleged "Ritual vow" of that Degree.

However, from my knowledge of another (lower) Degree with similar wording, I suspect that the writers of the article have taken words out of context. In the other Degree we are instructed "not to palliate or aggravate the offences of your Brethren, but in the decision of every trespass... judge with candour, admonish with friendship and reprehend with mercy." I would be surprised if the "vow" in the higher Degree contradicts that of the lower one.

In any event, not only is there nothing in Freemasonry which is incompatible with our civil, moral or religious duties, but we are expected to be exemplary citizens and discharge our civil duties in priority to our obligations to the craft. Our conduct should be such that "when a man is said to be a Freemason the world may know that he is one... whose hand is guided by Jus-

tics...". I would say that if Sir Frederick upholds these principles then he is an excellent choice as Chairman of the Criminal Cases Review Commission.

Joyce M Evans,  
1 Summerlee Gardens,  
East Finchley,  
London N2 9QN.

SO an old age pensioner with no legal training or experience, whose main claim to fame is to have been a willing executioner of the Thatcher government's swingeing cuts to the university system and who continues to downsize Aston University during a period of university expansion, is deemed to be the "best man for the job" Chairman of the Criminal Cases Review Commission? Michael Tomson,  
3 College Manor,  
Drumcondra,  
Dublin 9.

## Lessons on how to become a member of the big wide world

YOUR report (Teachers reject moral classes, August 14) states that personal and social education lessons now taught in schools are "widely despised by pupils".

If this somewhat negative view is the case, it is a shame and a waste that a valuable slot in a crowded curriculum is not being used more effectively. Meanwhile, pupils are leaving school with little knowledge or understanding of how the institutions of a democratic society work, where they belong in it, and how they can contribute.

The Citizenship Foundation produces course materials and organises activities such as mock trials and parliamentary sessions which can help prepare students for life post-school. From our wide contact with schools, we know that many use these in PSE sessions; but until there is dedicated time in the curriculum for a programme of citizenship education, its delivery will be haphazard.

John Newton,  
Citizenship Foundation,  
Wesley House,  
18 West Smithfield,  
London EC2A 9HY.

TEACHERS' leaders should think again before dismissing proposals for pupils to do community service. There is strong evidence that young people gain enormous benefit from voluntary action in the community, growing in confidence, understanding and social skills.

Community service is an out-dated concept with undertones of "do-gooding" but voluntary action based on local needs and problems identified by young people and then designed and delivered by them can be a powerful practical reinforcement of classroom lessons.

Schools have a broader role than preparing young people for higher education or the workplace. Only through direct experience in the community will young people learn the rights and responsibilities of citizenship.

Terry Cane,  
Projects manager,  
The National Youth Agency,  
17-23 Albion Street,  
Leicester LE1 5GD.

FROM our partnerships with over 3,500 schools and colleges nationwide, we see how community service learning, as a part of the existing curriculum, both raises educational achievement and increases social cohesion. In English lessons, students produce talking newspapers for the blind. In Environmental Studies, they organise recycling schemes and History lessons are enriched by talking with local elders, discussing issues such as living through two world wars. Elizabeth Hoodless,  
Executive Director, CSV,  
237 Pentonville Road,  
London N1 9NJ.

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**Some Like It Hot!**

## Elite taste of A level success

OUR society is obsessed with success and failure, we moan when our Atlanta sisters "blat" and commiserate when our youth succeed. In a market-driven education system, it is a prerequisite to have winners and losers. As a teacher, I welcome the day when we don't need to have failures, as this will herald a more egalitarian society, not the elitist one where it is seen as morally reprehensible that more than a few should taste success.

Jason Todd,  
17 Rymer Street,  
Hertie Hill,  
London SE24 0NQ.

## Freedom now

YOUR report (Nigeria opens door to Commonwealth, August 15) that the Commonwealth may not insist that any mission to Nigeria be entitled to meet with General Obasanjo is a cause of great concern.

I cannot speak of Chief Abiola, but understand that General Obasanjo, chair of our Advisory Council, has been held in appalling conditions and denied adequate water with which to wash. This is an outrageous way in which to treat one of Africa's leading statesmen. Let alone one whose diplomatic skills are in such dire need in Burundi. The Commonwealth has already damaged its credibility by withholding action on the sanctions it had previously threatened, and for it to allow General Obasanjo and Chief Abiola to be used as bargaining chips in a crude round of political gamesmanship would surely be unthinkable. Merely asking to see these imprisoned democrats is grossly insufficient. Each is entitled to his freedom immediately.

Peter Eiger,  
Chairman, Transparency International (TI) Berlin, Germany.

## Ripe result

MY lovely daughter is a twin whose sibling was miscarried during week of pregnancy, and my wife and I have a twin sister as well as an older sister. When we were considering a second child it seemed to me that we stood a good chance of repeating the family plan by successfully having twins at the second attempt; a blessing I wanted to avoid for various strongly held reasons (not least of which was a sincere concern to minimise our family's burden on the environment).

I made several enquiries to find out what techniques or procedures existed which might have been both feasible and morally acceptable to us, but was cold-shouldered by everyone I asked, including our GP who advised us to "leave it all up to God".

Paraverence was eventually regarded as a sympathetic practitioner at King's College Hospital invented a simple, clear, non-traumatic and non-controversial procedure which had a 96 per cent chance of preventing non-identical twins. This couldn't have been simpler; my wife's ovary was scanned immediately prior to ovulation, enabling the doctor to determine that only a single ovum was ripening. All we had to do was what comes naturally, and our son was born nine months later.

This happened two years ago, and as far as I am aware no one else has used this procedure simply because it has not been publicised. Recent events have proved that our requirement was not unique, and I am certain that many prospective fathers — and some mothers — would prefer to do what we did rather than "leave it all up to God". This "treatment" costs as little as £70 and should be just as much a part of family planning as contraception and fertility treatment.

My wife and I would be happy to pass on this relevant detail to any prospective parent who considers themselves to be in a similar predicament.

Quentin Halfyard,  
High Street,  
Hemel Hempstead,  
Herts HP1 3AE.

## A Country Diary

LONGDENDALE: Going up from the narrow lane at Arncliffe, dead-end for motorists, gateway to better things for pedestrians, we crossed the dry heather-banks overlooking sultry Oden Clough and turned across towards the blue glint of the Swineshaw Reservoirs. Curlews were calling as we came to the watershed and approached the brown col of Pack Saddle. Up here on the breezy summit of Hollingworth Moor there were no flies; only the welcome north-western prospect across Greater Manchester to the blue profile of Winter Hill.

Next month sees the centenary of the Winter Hill Trespass when Colonel Richard Ainsworth decided to stop access to the 1,493 feet summit. Bolton folk were outraged and 25,000 of them marched to the top on three separate weekends. Despite all the huffing and puffing, public access wasn't ever fully achieved but these days anyone can go there without hindrance.

Back the other way, on the eastern flank of our moor, we

## Getting the Big Mac they deserve

IT'S very difficult to feel any sympathy for the members of Michael Portillo's constituency party who are opposing McDonald's building a drive-thru restaurant. As Conservatives they should realise that the free-market economy is concerned with the interests of business first and people second. They have actively supported a party which has awarded countless scandalous planning applications across the country, often in the teeth

## Local opposition

of local opposition. There is also a whiff of snobbery about the whole thing: no doubt these people regard burgers as something far below working-class. They deserve their drive-thru restaurant; it should act as a permanent reminder that they have promoted a party that endorses the cheapening of our society.

David James,  
1 Lynch Farm,  
Witcham,  
Oxford OX2 8QP.

## Dose of Diana

SO the High Court has enjoined a paparazzo to go no nearer than 300m to a harassed Princess. Can harassed and irritated members of the public take out an injunction to prevent the Princess coming within a mile of a photographer?

B Thorpe,  
50 Brown Lane,  
Heald Green,  
Ghazania,  
Cheshire SK9 3RA.

## Muddying BSE

DR Harsh Narang (A cow and bull story, G2, August 15) has done more than anyone to muddy the issues about BSE. In Russia in the 1940s, Trofim Lysenko, a "barsof scientist", similarly postulated fanciful theories about the genetics of wheat and potatoes which led to destroyed crops and the exile of geneticists to the gulag.

Robert Dourmashkin (Dr),  
40 Luxerne Road,  
London N5 1YZ.

بكتيريا الجوز





PHOTOGRAPH: DAVID BILLITOE

# Rowers Steven Redgrave and Matthew Pinsent were our only true champions in Atlanta — Redgrave's fourth successive triumph. So why are they so miserable?

## Bronzed off with the golden boys

**The Joanna Coles Interview**

**S**UPPOSE for a moment that I had been sent to interview a rival journalist on a rival newspaper who had just published a collection of interviews so insightful and amusing that it had earned him or her several million pounds, and a permanent place at the top of the bestseller list. It would not necessarily be the most auspicious of meetings and the reader might be right to feel suspicious if we didn't get on. I am prepared to admit I would probably arrive already grey with envy, take copious scribbled notes on how tastefully they had spent their dosh, while at the same time trying to squeeze out the tiniest morsel of advice on how I might replicate their success. It's rare, but sometimes there is an inherent conflict between interviewer and interviewee.

There was, however, no conflict where Britain's Olympic rowers and sole gold medalists, Steven Redgrave and Matthew Pinsent, were concerned. I have never harboured secret longings to be an Olympic rower and, as I watched them thrum the Australians into second place, I was shouting wild encouragement at my television set. Yes, yes, said their agent, they'd be happy to chat and liked being interviewed together. Steven was just back from his holiday in Florida and feeling rested after their triumph. I dismissed the tabloid reports, which claimed on Tuesday that Redgrave was annoyed John Major hadn't sent him a congratulatory fax. I was going to meet two sporting giants and I was really looking forward to it. By the time our 40-minute meeting was over, I have never been so glad to leave an interview in my life. Hello, says Steven Redgrave, looking at his watch. He will look at his watch more than 18 times in the next 40 minutes, pretty much every time I ask him a question and certainly every time his partner, Matthew Pinsent, bothers to answer one. Never mind, I don't know this yet, and am still enthusiastic as we sit in the lobby of the Langham Hilton waiting for Matthew, who is on his way. As we wait, Redgrave shows me the medal and pinsent.

He shrugs, apparently bored. Oh well, I think to myself, he's entitled to be bored, he must have done this hundreds of times and he does have three more at home. He seems dour, unpleasant even, and I wonder if it's because no one seems to recognise him. But then we are surrounded by foreign tourists... Next, he remarks he hasn't eaten lunch because he's no longer in training and anyway he's not hungry. So I put the underlying surliness down to low blood sugar. Besides, I hadn't expected to meet Mr Cheerful. After the final, I remember being nonplussed by his terse announcement: "I've had enough. If anyone sees me near a boat will they please shoot me?" Considering he had just entered Olympic history as only the fourth man to win four consecutive gold medals, it seemed unnecessarily graceless. But hell, I reckoned he was probably exhausted. I remember too that even the BBC's voraciously persuasive Dan Topolski struggled in their gold-medal interview. Oh well, at least 25-year-old Matthew, the younger of the two, cheered as he hit the finishing line and I discard my doubts as he arrives and we go downstairs to take the photos. Understandably, few people like having their photo taken and it is quite common for interviewees to protest. Redgrave and Pinsent do not protest, but they begin to radiate a sort of non-specific hostility. Neither of them say anything for the entire 10 minutes. Instead, they maintain a sullen, dour silence which infects the room. I can almost see Redgrave's mood deteriorating in front of me. It seems no coincidence that the hotel's PR manager suddenly bursts in and demands to know what are we doing. I explain we are photographing Britain's Olympic-winning oarsmen. Nobody tells me anything, she grumbles, tossing a cursory "congratulations" over her shoulder on the way out. Can you get a bit closer together, the photographer asks gently? The two men flinch. We troop upstairs to Matthew's suite and arrange ourselves in the sofa bit. "Did you see Sharon Davies is presenting The Big Breakfast now," says Pinsent, 38, sipping and grazing the doorframe. "Yeah, but only because she got booted off Gladiators." So, I begin brightly, as Pinsent promptly disappears into the bedroom. Where does your extraordinary motivation come from? "It comes from within," says

Redgrave, in a voice so flat I fear he may be deflating on the spot. "You set yourself targets. We had an ability and found a sport we were good at. We wanted to take it as high as we could. The highest thing is the Olympic Games." Would you agree, I ask Pinsent, as he saunters back in, wrestling with the zip on his suit bag. "Yeah, sure," he shrugs, though I am not convinced he heard Redgrave's answer. "We set our goal after Barcelona to win Atlanta." What is it about rowing that they like? Pinsent (Folding a pair of blue chinos.) "There must be an end result." Redgrave: "We hate the training, the grind, the day in, day out. It's the goal." But if you hate it, and the goal comes round only once every four years, is it worth spending your life on it? Pinsent (Grimly) "It's a great achievement." Redgrave (Dully) "Yes it's worth the sacrifice, I've won it four times. You think 'Well, what else could I be doing?'" What do they think about when they're rowing? Redgrave: "Your mind tends to drift on to all sorts of things. One of the skills of being a top sportsman is the powers of concentration, we can concentrate much longer than other people. It's the quality of training." Do they talk to each other when they train? Redgrave (Glancing at watch) "When we're doing heavy weight sessions." What sort of things do they talk about or say? Pinsent: "Like 'Shit, this is hard.'" I know what he means. We are getting nowhere. I have no rapport with either of them, but more importantly they appear to have no rapport with each other. I suspect they have spent too long rowing up and down the river, staring at the back of each other's head. Having finished packing his overnight bag, Pinsent is now planning

dering the complimentary supply of Hilton Humbugs. I try again. Now that Redgrave is throwing in the cars, how do they both feel about the end of such a successful partnership? Pinsent (Notably crumpling humbug.) "It was good while it lasted. You can't be sad about it." Do they socialise together? Redgrave: "Yeah." Pinsent: "Well we will do now." What do you like about each other? Silence. I turn to Redgrave who is looking at his watch. What do you like about Matthew? Redgrave (Bored.) "He's good fun." Matthew, I continue, ignoring the fact that he is ignoring me, what do you like about Steve (who is glancing at his watch again)? Pinsent: "The fact he thinks along the same lines as me." Pinsent has tired of the free humbugs and is now flicking through a copy of The Hilton Guest. I resist my desire to snatch it from his hand and demand, like a teacher, that he pay attention. Instead, I ask him how, rowing full-time since Barcelona, they have coped financially? He explains that a series of sponsorship deals means they have a salary of around £25,000 each a year, which seems awfully low when compared to other world-class athletes. Linford Christie, Alan Shearer... Do they think this disparity unfair? Redgrave folds his arms and stares crossly. "We enjoy doing what we're doing and being successful. I wouldn't have changed anything." Do they have any advice for younger rowers hoping to follow in their wake? Pinsent: "Not really." Who are their sporting heroes? Pinsent: "Anyone who in some ways dedicates themselves to sport." Redgrave: "And uses the talent they've got."

Do they have anyone specific in mind? Redgrave: "Not really; I can't think of anyone." They are similarly unilluminating when it comes to the issue of British sport. We traipse through familiar territory, none of it worth repeating. I try less familiar territory, hobbies, sacrifice, failure, none of that worth repeating either. I am desperate to leave but I would like to know what the monosyllabic Redgrave plans to do next? Redgrave: "We have a lot of media work coming in." What sort of media work? Redgrave: "Appearances, speeches." Are you any good at it, I demand incredulously? Redgrave: "I've been doing it quite well for the last eight years. I'd be surprised if more doesn't come along." Well, what sort of media work would he like to do in an ideal world? He looks blankly. Across the room, Pinsent has chucked the magazine and is busy blowing loudly through the holes in his room key. I glance back to Redgrave who, amazingly, is apparently struggling to say

something of his own volition. Redgrave (Slowly) "I have to decide what to do for the..." Pinsent (Interrupting) "... For the rest of your life." Redgrave: "It's something I don't want to rush into. Rowing's been my life for the last 20 years." Is that why he was so grumpy at the end of the race? Redgrave: "We sold everyone from Barcelona that the 27th of July was when we were going to win in Atlanta. We'd told all these people we'd win. There wasn't the elation of thinking you might get silver and walking away with the gold. We expected to do it." I have to get out. There's no doubting their achievement, but I can bear their palpable unhappiness no longer. "Interrogation over," I smile bleakly, as I make for the door. In the lift Pinsent suddenly reaches down into my bag, and unmasked, grabs some loose cuttings I have photocopied as part of my research. The headline reads "Men of Iron". "Oh Man of Iron, are we?" he guffaws, as he stuffs the cuttings back. "Men of Iron," I murmur softly. "Men of Iron."

nothing of his own volition. Redgrave (Slowly) "I have to decide what to do for the..." Pinsent (Interrupting) "... For the rest of your life." Redgrave: "It's something I don't want to rush into. Rowing's been my life for the last 20 years." Is that why he was so grumpy at the end of the race? Redgrave: "We sold everyone from Barcelona that the 27th of July was when we were going to win in Atlanta. We'd told all these people we'd win. There wasn't the elation of thinking you might get silver and walking away with the gold. We expected to do it." I have to get out. There's no doubting their achievement, but I can bear their palpable unhappiness no longer. "Interrogation over," I smile bleakly, as I make for the door. In the lift Pinsent suddenly reaches down into my bag, and unmasked, grabs some loose cuttings I have photocopied as part of my research. The headline reads "Men of Iron". "Oh Man of Iron, are we?" he guffaws, as he stuffs the cuttings back. "Men of Iron," I murmur softly. "Men of Iron."

## Please could you stop picking on us Masons?

**MICHAEL HIGHAM** says the Justice Commission won't be compromised by Sir Frederick Crawford's craft

**F**REEMASONRY'S critics have seized upon the fact that Sir Frederick Crawford is appointed to chair the Criminal Cases Review Commission — a Freemason. They assume that because he is a Freemason he is compromised, as is the Commission. As proof for this, they repeat the erroneous claim that Freemasons are sworn to protect each other regardless of the circumstances. They are wrong. The obligation which a Master Mason takes states specifically "my breast shall be the sacred repository of his secrets which entrusted to my care — murder, treason, felony and all other offences contrary to the laws of God and the ordinances of the realm being at all times most especially excepted". So if a Freemason does protect a brother who has broken the law, he is not only breaking the law himself but also breaking his Masonic obligation. A new twist has been added to this in the past few days by the publication — in part and out of context — of an obscure piece of Masonic prose which appears as the appendix to one of the many published rituals of Royal Arch Masonry. It is unknown to the vast majority of Freemasons. As quoted, it appears to bear out the myth that Freemasons help each other in an immoral way. In context, however, the passage emphasises the promise of the Master Mason's obligation. Paraphrased into modern English, it says that a Freemason's behaviour towards a brother who has broken the law should be "tactfully to remind him of his failings and to help him to improve, so that if he is accused of wrongdoing or has acted badly he will reduce undue criticism by acknowledging his responsibility."

The piece goes on to say that this advice should be applied to all people and not just to Freemasons. Freemasons know that their duties are to God, the law, and their families, their jobs and to society in general. Any duty they might feel they have to another Freemason comes a long way after that.

Freemasons also know — and are told on at least six occasions during the ceremonies they go through — that using their Masonic membership to gain any sort of advantage for themselves or anyone else is contrary to the rules and spirit of Freemasonry. If anyone does try to use it in that way he will become subject to Masonic discipline and depending on the seriousness of his offence will either



Michael Higham... 'hard to change misconceptions'

have his membership suspended or will be thrown out. The published proceedings of the Grand Lodge show that the discipline process is used when members do unfortunately err. Sir Frederick's Masonic membership is a matter of public record. His appointment to head the Commission was made under the new rules laid down Nolan, so the Home Office will presumably have enquired into his outside interests and been satisfied that there was no conflict of interest. Sir Frederick, like any other Freemason holding public office, will know that if a situation arises in which there could be even a minimal public perception that Freemasonry might be involved in what was being investigated, he must declare an interest and then withdraw. It will be a very sad thing for public life if honourable men are to be denied public office simply because one of their spare-time interests is Freemasonry. We know only too well how difficult it is to change public misconceptions. For over a decade we have

had a deliberate policy of openness. Membership is not secret. Our rules and aims and relationships have been in the public domain for generations. Many Masonic centres have open days and are used by their local communities as social centres. There is a vast amount of literature on Freemasonry available in libraries. There are contacts available for anyone to find out about Freemasonry. And as the media know well when anything comes up there are spokesmen available for comment or interview. What saddens Freemasons is the repetition of old myths which they know to be demonstrably untrue. Critical commentators in the last few days have been careful to say that they are not attacking the personal integrity of Sir Frederick Crawford. Freemasons would say that not only are they doing that but they are attacking the integrity of Freemasons in general.

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MICHAEL BILLINGTON says that the superb work at the Traverse rebuts George Steiner's criticism that the arts are no longer morally enriching

# Why Steiner is wrong

**G**EORGE Steiner set the agenda for the Edinburgh week. Not so much because of his widely reported suggestion that the Festival should self-destruct, more because of his disturbing observation that artistic excellence has less and less connection with decency and progress. As he bluntly said: "Great musical performances, art exhibitions, drama festivals, architecture have not only co-existed with political madness, they have adorned and celebrated it."

Steiner's point was uncannily echoed in the most important and moving event I saw all week: a performance of Wallace Shawn's *The Fever* by a compelling Canadian actor, Clare Couther, which dominated an exceptionally strong programme at the Traverse Theatre. Shawn wrote his 90-minute monologue in 1990 and initially performed it in people's apartments before it became a public event. In essence, it is the testament of a guilt-ridden liberal who, in the course of a visit to a Third World country, is forced to question all the assumptions of his existence: that a belief in beauty, art, personal decency, private fulfilment and political gradualism will somehow make the world a better place. It is the perfect play for a Festival based on the humanist premise that, by confronting great art, we are morally and spiritually enriched.

Shawn's point is similar to that made in Pinter's recent political plays: that our celebration of life co-exists with atrocities carried out in the name of democracy and that our western comfort depends on the existence of global poverty. The words sting because they have the subtlety of poetry rather than the bluntness of polemic. And Clare Couther, who sits there in a plain black dress, seems to be speaking directly to each of us. That the words come from the heart was confirmed by a tiny moment when a member of the audience was overcome by a coughing fit, the actress leaned across and offered her a glass of water. The gesture both destroyed the artificial boundary between art and life and demonstrated the paradox at the heart of Shawn's masterpiece: that liberal decency may be insufficient in a barbarous universe but is also not yet extinct.

Shawn's play rattles our conscience because it asks whether our comforts are based on other people's miseries. The architect claims that his original concept of terraced towers was loosely based on Stonehenge: a tenant who lives in his decaying monstrosities tells him, "You weren't asked to design houses, you were asked to house people."

Greig's play is a touch schematic in the way it shows the master-builder's family disintegrating like his civic architecture. But the production by Philip Howard, who succeeds Ian Brown as director of the Traverse in October, kept me engrossed and a good performance by Alexander Morton as the guilty hero is accompanied by outstanding ones from Tom Smith as his screwed-up son and from John Stahl as a decent truckdriver who befriends his runaway daughter.



Clare Couther in *The Fever*... Wallace Shawn's moving and important play

Big issues permeate all the Traverse plays. Chris Hannan's erratically exuberant new comedy, *Shining Souls*, surveys the spiritual chaos of modern life. Set in Glasgow over the course of one day, it starts with a single mum trying to choose between two potential husbands both called Billy and goes on to examine the goods on offer in the spiritual supermarket: everything from astrology and soapbox prophecy to a desiccated Christianity. Much the funniest

character is a weary vicar, nicely played by John Ramage, who announces that the Ten Commandments are far too many: "Pick one and try to keep to it," is his advice. Hannan loses control of his material in the second half, but Ian Brown's farewell production is sprightly and the company is dashingly led by Alison Peebles as the dithering bride. Not by any means a perfect play, but one that pins

down hilariously our search for spiritual solace in a dead, materialist age. I was enchanted by Theatre Cryptic's *Parallel Lines* which offers a sexy, voluptuous, musicalised version of Molly Bloom's great affirmative soliloquy from *Ulysses*. I was less taken with Communicado's version of Michel Vinaver's *Portrait Of A Woman* which, while offering multiple perspectives on a French murderess, belies the promise of the title. But total immersion in the Traverse programme suggests that Ian Brown leaves this most crucial of Scottish theatres in rude, investigative health. It also left me doubting Steiner's assumption that art often anaesthetises us against reality. By asking the right questions, it can also force us to confront the moral flaws of our own natures and of the wider world.

Choreographer Jiri Kylian resembles a child pulling apart a perfect toy, says JUDITH MACKRELL

## Dancing in the dark

**J**IRI KYLIAN'S fleet of power dancers have only appeared in Edinburgh twice in the past 20 years, so when many people last saw them they were still performing in the style exemplified by Kylian's 1978 Symphony of Psalms. This classic, which dominated Netherlands Dans Theater's opening programme in Edinburgh this week, has the dancers dipping and soaring on the wings of exalted emotion, their bodies arching gorgeously towards ecstasy or plunging reckless depths and their limbs coiling through an apparently unstoppable flow of dance.

It's a luxuriant, full-bodied style that has moulded NDT's astonishing group of thoroughbred performers for years, creating bodies that are violently supple by Kylian's every theatrical demand while being elegantly, graciously honed. But Kylian's work has moved on — ostensibly towards a more fashionable post-modernism but actually into a phase that resembles a kid pulling apart a perfect toy. Most of his work is all in bits. In *Bella Figura* (1995) the score is a ragbag of excerpts ransacked from a variety of scores while the choreography's juicy swirls of

dance are constantly being wrenched apart into disjointed fidgets and blips. As the dancers move, blank-faced and beautiful, through a series of wildly erratic encounters, they don't know if they are soft porn fantasies, religious acolytes or stage hania. For Kylian also can't leave his set alone. The performers are not allowed to dance for long but have to keep dragging the curtains backwards and forwards, dodging descending lighting rigs and punting reckless depths and their limbs coiling through an apparently unstoppable flow of dance.



Netherlands Dans Theater's fabulous dancers perform Kylian's exasperating dances

**FILM**  
**Khu-Gam**  
OR AN exemplary lesson in movie high passion. Set during the world war two, director Euthan Mukdasani's sumptuous Thai epic ticks all the right boxes: the cinematography is rich, music swells, cruelty vies with bravery, and young love, naturally, brings grief.

The beautiful Unsumlain has two men in her life: her sweetheart, away fighting, and an occupying Japanese, her allegiances variously swayed by desire, duty and politics. Cutting-edge it's not, but when convention is done so well, who needs a revolution?  
At Filmhouse (0131-228 2688), 8pm, Sunday  
Robert Yates

**THEATRE**  
**Judith**  
LOVE takes many forms and is full of possibilities in Howard Barker's challenging, meaty re-telling of the apocryphal story of Judith, an agent of the Israeli state who, on the eve of battle, seduces and slays the enemy general Holofernes.  
At Traverse (0131-228 1404)  
Lyn Gardner

### Talk of the town

**A**SILENT opera? Cecil B de Mille's 1915 version of *Carmen* was screened for the first time since 1918 the other night. It's not all silent, of course. Blet's score accompanies the action, and captions tell the story. Fears that it might be a dour challenge were dispelled by the archy camp goings-on. Don Jose was enough to make John Inman blush and Carmen, well, the aesthetics of comely gypsy girls have changed quite a bit since 1915. Geraldine Farrar, the lady in question, was a big diva at the time, and her excursion into cinema was something of an event. Charlie Chaplin was so impressed by the kitsch classic, he made a spoof. The two versions should be out together on video soon.  
OH NO," said one party-goer on Thursday night. "A pith helmet with a kilt." For unknown reasons the 12th festival party at the National Gallery of Scotland specified a dress code of black tie or "Out of Africa." Would Meryl Streep put in an appearance? Can she do the accent? The questions remained unanswered as Edinburgh's finest put on their war paint and danced to the sounds of Dixieland. Concepts? They've got them.  
Dan Glatzer

### Finalists

**Finalists for The Guardian International Student Drama Award in the first shorts are:**  
**Making Love** performed by Prominent Features — six Edinburgh friends in search of sexual fulfilment and true happiness. *C Venus*, 11.00pm, until August 31.  
**Dubliners** directed by Linford Caszoveo and performed by the EUTC — the atmosphere of Ireland captured through three intertwined James Joyce stories. *Bedlam Theatre*, 8.00pm, until August 24.  
**Ghetto** by the NSTC — a powerful portrait of the Vilna ghetto during its "liquidation". *11.50am, Southside Community Centre*, until August 31.  
A further shortlist will be announced next week.

**Screen** Derek Malcolm reviews the latest film releases every Thursday in *The Guardian*

**The Observer FILM QUIZ** at the Drambaie Edinburgh Film Festival

**GURUS vs UPSTARTS**  
Charlotte Coleman  
Richard Curtis  
John Cooper Clarke  
Simon Day  
Sandra Dickinson  
Philip French  
battle over film trivia in a quiz hosted by Mariella Frostrup

Sunday August 13, 4pm (5.30pm) Tickets: £6 (£4 concs)  
Flahouse 1, Lothian Road Box Office: 0131 228 2683

## Floral tributes

**Television**  
**Vera Rule**  
GARDENERS' World (BBC2) was scheduled to be a tribute to the late Geoff Hamilton, a man whose face close over the bone, his hands in close-up, kneading the earth around something new-planted in Barnsdale.  
But first, Richard Holmes on the *Somme* for War Walks (BBC2) with chalk on his shoes. The filming season was back to winter and Holmes and a bomb disposal man were crouched by a rustic tip with these dug-up vegetal shapes clattered with mould. They picked up a potato-sized hand grenade, and the expert pointed out its firing pin with his little finger — that masculine gesture of delicacy Geoff would use for indicating small new growths.  
Soldiers always tell you how you see the land in a battle as near as does an insect. In the antique footage, you could watch what the earth did when a mine blew a crater — the topsoil star-burst, with big clods pattering low down. Pickets were still in the ground, those iron rods with links to hold the barbed wire: you thought they were for fencing allotments, but that must have been their demobbed role. Everything military was like early agricultural machinery. The German machine guns with their wooden handle-grips might have been a simple device for chopping turnips for feedstuff, needs only two men to operate, speeds up the process. Even the British tank seemed a primitive combine harvester lurching over the downs; and the great guns were clearly, in that July bombardment, recoiling into fields of standing corn.  
When the Accrington Pals — the recruits who joined together street-by-street, pit-by-pit — came up out of their trenches, their packs were heavy with the shovels with which they should have consolidated the German lines they were meant to take. The recorded veteran voices were very plain: "Our fellows just went down like sickled grain," said one, still surprised. *Sickled*, it's a sharp, sudden severing. Holmes said the Lancashire Fusiliers' advance was "mown down". With a hay mower's scythe, there is a slower and wider sweep. The Fusiliers had been filmed minutes before they went over the top and they had faces close over the bone.  
In the bare landscape you looked for flowers, but the farmhouse that had been a dressing-station had only a few potted pansies. Holmes went into one of the 188 war cemeteries of the region: the stones in slightly raised beds, a low round shrub at the end of each row. You read Geoff Hamilton's last tips in the *Radio Times*:  
"When flowers have finished, dead-head them by cutting the stem back... that encourages the growth of a new flowering stem."  
Holmes said the British stopped believing that human spirit could face down machine guns. He walked away over the perfect lawn. In your head, you could hear Philip Larkin: "Never such innocence as turned itself to past without a word — the men leaving the gardens tidy... Never such innocence again."

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**The Guardian INTERACTIVE**

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كلياتنا التخصصية

ISOBEL MONTGOMERY trawled through literary Moscow in search of the Great Russian Writer, to see if the last 10 tumultuous years have thrown up a new Tolstoy

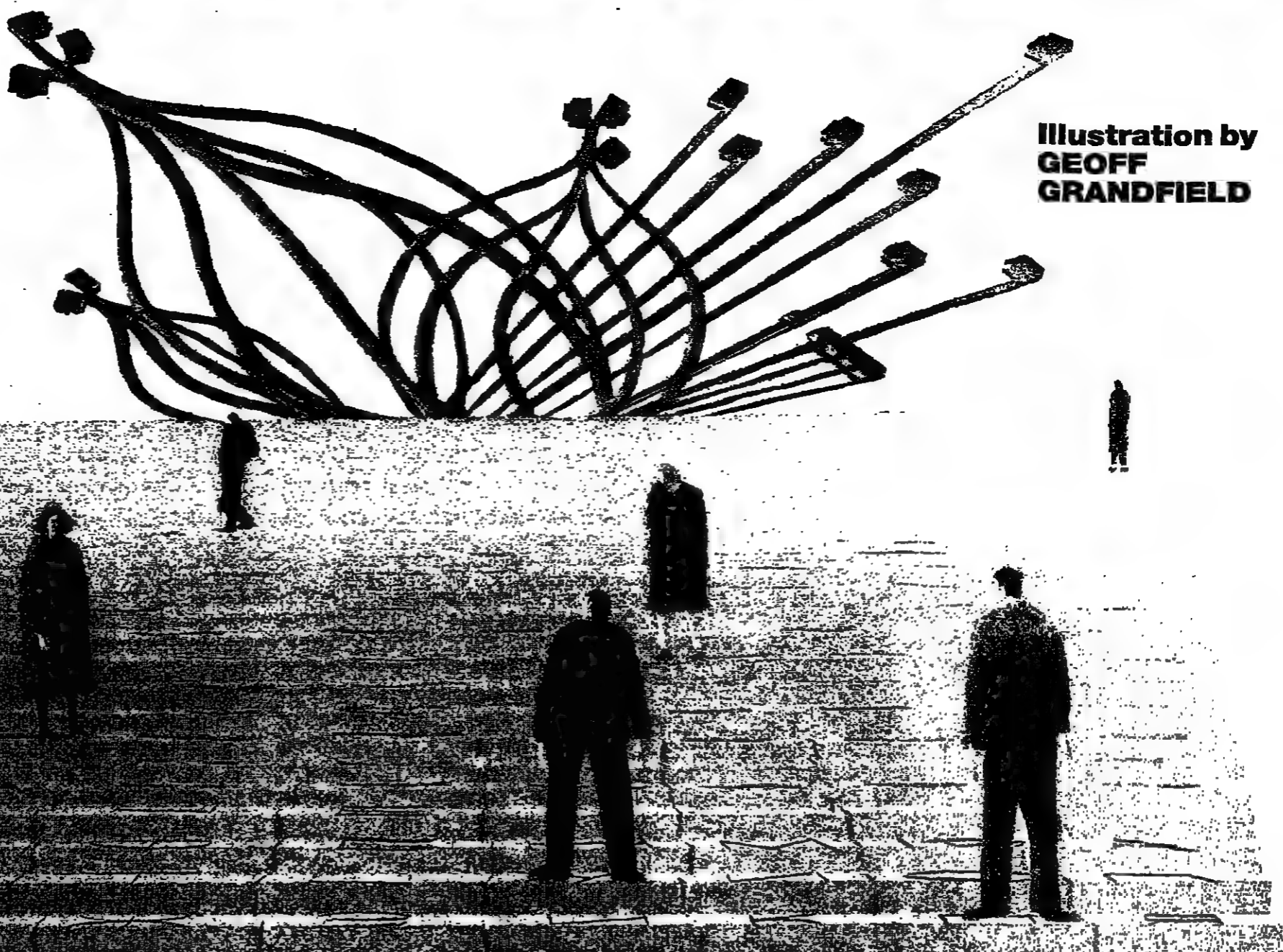


Illustration by GEOFF GRANDFIELD

Stepping out of a novel era

COME TO Moscow like a private detective. I wanted to find the great writer who must have thrown up...

nosed the disease, had the doctor in Erofeev found the cure? But Moscow is already bored with Erofeev's dazzling phrases, and Natasha does not belong to the Erofeev camp...

nothing else. I ask her who she is reading now? Definitely not Erofeev is her answer. "What about Vladimir Sorokin?" I ask, naming another challenger of the old literary establishment...

A recent short story, The Captive of the Caucasus, was published in Noye Mir last year and in English translation this summer. More than anything...

ground and six or seven customers — academics, students and a military officer — stand shoulder to shoulder browsing through the shelves. There is a palpable sense of conspiracy among the customers...

work printed on Znamya's poor quality paper is still a mark of having arrived. Our main task is to publish new writing but that doesn't mean we publish only the newest youngest writers...

I set out to find, let alone a successor to the classics. Did the end of ideology mean the end of the big literary idea in Russia? For Arbatova other questions are more important. There are political problems to be solved before literary ones...

normal market for books in Russia. What can you do? For Buida, being a writer in today's Russia is only for madmen: "You can't make a living from writing, but if you can't live without writing, then write. There will always be a few madmen who will write."



The outside world expects us to write like Dostoevsky but using contemporary material'

Advertisement for the book 'BRIAN MASTERS' by A.N. Wilson. The ad features a large quote: 'Anyone reading this brilliant book will wonder whether justice was really done.' and another quote: 'It deserves to become a classic of criminal literature'. The book cover image shows the title 'BRIAN MASTERS' and 'SHE MUST HAVE KNOWN'.



# Money Guardian

**Richard Miles** tells fans keen to invest in the soccer boom to use their heads not just their hearts



New ball game... The share price of Manchester United slipped after their finance director Robin Launders (top left) was snapped up by Leeds PHOTOGRAPH: NOEL FRENCH

## Glory game splits into haves and have nots

**A**S THE soccer season kicks off today not just the fans but investors might be well advised to check players' form.

A report out last week forecast that more than a dozen clubs could have a stock market listing by the year 2000, making football not just a game but a big business. Merchandising and television rights have turned soccer into a £468 million industry. Fans can enjoy a slice of the action too. Unlike other investment opportunities, a club's past performance can be a reliable guide to future returns. Goals really do equal capital gains, but investors who want to make money out of football could reap even richer rewards by investing in companies which are cashing in on football off the pitch.

Three clubs have full listings on the stock market: last year's league champions Manchester United, Tottenham Hotspur and second division Millwall. Supporters of Chelsea, Celtic and Preston North End can also take a stake in their clubs through the Alternative Investment Market, though these shares are more difficult to buy and sell.

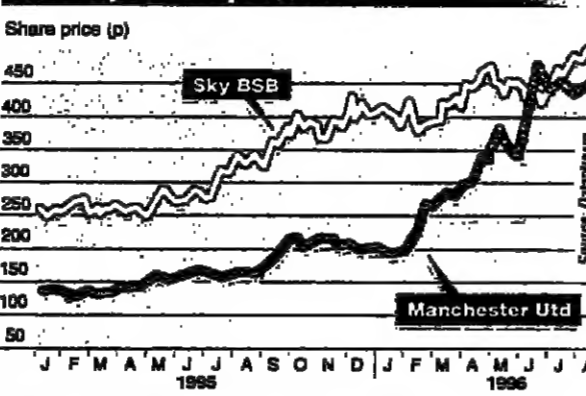
And more fans may soon be able to invest in their teams. City accountants Deloitte & Touche predict that between 12 and 15 clubs will have a stock market listing by the end of the millennium. Helpfully for investors, movements in share price reflect a team's performance on the pitch. And, as most games are played when the stock market is closed, investors can make fairly safe bets.

Take Manchester United's 4-0 victory over Newcastle in the Charity Shield last Sunday. When the market opened next morning, United's shares rose by 12p. When they were knocked out of the UEFA cup last year, the shares fell sharply, ahead of a loss of revenues from unplayed games. "The long-term growth of football clubs will come from consistent performance in the field," says Dale Thorpe, a football analyst with Deloitte. "Even income from other sources will be related to on-the-pitch performance."

A graphic illustration of this appears in Deloitte's report. Manchester United, which won two major trophies last year, saw its share price rise by 63 per cent last season. But poor old Millwall was punished on the pitch and in the market. The south London team was relegated from the first to the second division and ended the season with a share price 27 per cent lower. Off-the-field moves can also nudge the shares up or down. Manchester United's stock slipped by a penny this week when its finance director Robin Launders deserted to join Leeds United, recently acquired by media and leisure group Caspian.

As more clubs opt for a listing, players' transfer fees, like the £15 million which Newcastle paid for Alan Shearer, will also have an impact on share prices. Spurs' signing of Jürgen Klinsman in August typically, buy more than one kit each season, not to mention scarves, hats and posters. Newcastle has diversified into catering and invests in the local Rugby League club. But a vast new source of income is just around the corner. The fees paid by cable and media companies for the right to televise the games will rise

### Championship form



1994 gave a huge boost to its share price. Most of football's revenue now comes from off-the-field activities. Gate receipts and season ticket sales accounted for just 43 per cent of the £468 million income of UK clubs last season, according to Deloitte. Now merchandising is the main source of income. Fans,

by leaps and bounds over the next few years, the best teams taking the lion's share.

Under the current deal which the Premier League has with BSkyB, the 20 teams in the division share some £36 million each season in TV fees. From August next year, that figure will soar to £155 million — at no extra cost to the clubs themselves.

Even bigger rewards may be on the table by 1999. At that point, BSkyB may well introduce pay-per-view for all Premier League games. That could bring clubs as much as £1 million for each game played in front of the cameras — at no additional cost.

Nick Train, investment director of fund manager GT Global, which at one point held 11 per cent of Manchester United's stock, says: "Football is no longer a hobby, it is an

industry. In the US, cable TV companies pay more and more for the rights to televise American football and baseball. UK football has begun to get into the same virtuous spiral."

The downside for football fans is that fewer and fewer clubs will get a slice of the spoils. In terms of profitability, a large gap has already opened between teams at the top of the Premiership and their lower division rivals. According to Deloitte, the average profit for a Premier league team last year was £2.24 million, with Manchester at the top with an operating profit of £15 million. Other divisions showed continuing losses at the operating level.

The gap is sure to widen further, Mr Train believes. He forecasts the emergence of a European super-league, perhaps followed by a global one. Only a handful of UK clubs will qualify.

So where should investors put their money? Mr Train tips Manchester United, Liverpool, Arsenal, and probably Newcastle and Spurs, for the super-league. But regardless of who wins the Premiership this season, there is one guaranteed winner: BSkyB. This week, BSkyB announced live coverage of more than 170 games this season. Fans, barred from grounds by prohibitive ticket prices, are snapping up satellite dishes. As a result, BSkyB shares have risen steadily over the past two years without any of the volatility of football club shares.

Money Guardian is edited by Margaret Hughes

### People who want to make money from football should be investing in firms cashing in off the pitch

typically, buy more than one kit each season, not to mention scarves, hats and posters. Newcastle has diversified into catering and invests in the local Rugby League club.

But a vast new source of income is just around the corner. The fees paid by cable and media companies for the right to televise the games will rise

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Legal victory for the Carters deals a hard blow to the cigarette manufacturers in US and Britain

At risk... Grady and Millie Carter (left) won \$750,000 against a BAT subsidiary

MAIN PHOTOGRAPH: FRANK MARTIN



Best savings rates

Table with columns: Account, Notice or term, Min Deposit £, Gross Rate %, Int. paid. Includes sections for Instant Access Accounts, Notice Accounts and Bonds, First Tesses (tax free), and Follow-on Tesses (tax free).

The mortgage market

Table with columns: Rate %, Period, Max LTV %, Fee £, Incentive. Includes sections for Fixed Rates, First-time buyers, and Discounted Variable Rates.

Smoker's lucky strike a boost for cancer victims

British claims against tobacco firms have been helped by a US jury's award, says RICHARD COLBEY

The award by an American jury of \$750,000 (£284,000) for the claim brought by a lung cancer victim against a British American Tobacco subsidiary will give hope to those who are pursuing similar actions in this country.

expect to pay to victims of the explosions. Armed with that knowledge, it was hardly surprising that the jury made a punitive award of many times the normal compensation. The first line of defence for any tobacco company, sued either here or in America, will be that people have a free choice whether or not to smoke.

protecting tobacco companies from litigation than preventing people taking up the product. Anyone who took up the habit as an adult after that date will have to accept that date will have the full knowledge of the risks involved.

highly complex scientific issue. An Australian court has already decided that there is a link between "passive smoking" and lung cancer. Like any litigant with a bad case who is anxious not to settle at any price, the tobacco companies will do all that they can to complicate the matter.

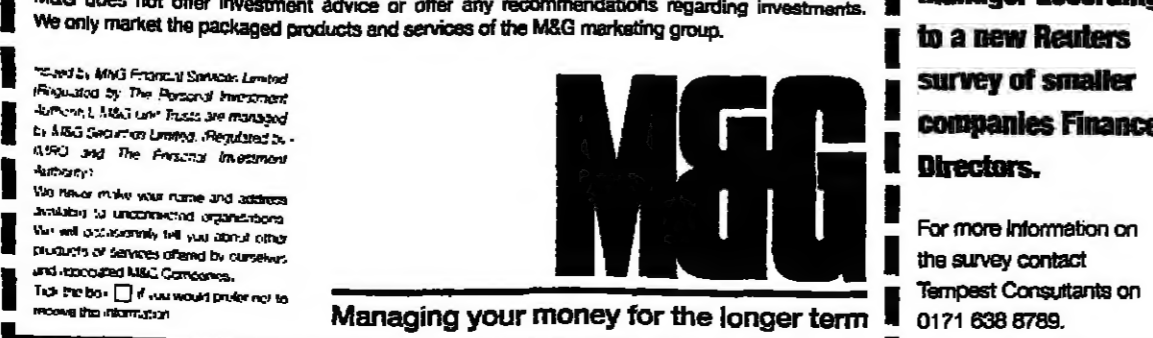
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Joint venture with France's Lagardère Groupe paves way for creation of pan-European defence industry

# Bae seals £1bn missile pact

Chris Barrie  
Business Correspondent

**T**HE creation of a pan-European defence industry came a step nearer yesterday when British Aerospace and the French group Lagardère sealed a pact to form the region's largest missile business.

The state-owned company was successful. Three years in the making, the joint venture was finally sealed when the Government committed itself recently to spending £800 million with Bae and Matra on Matra's Apache cruise missile.

Ownership of the new missile company, to be known as Matra Bae Dynamics, will be split equally. Bae declined to say what would happen to its

shareholding in the event that Thomson's interests are included later in the year. In a joint statement, Bae and Lagardère said the merger "recognises the changing nature of defence procurement in Europe and the need for the European defence industry to consolidate in order to be fully competitive in international markets".

The City welcomed the deal, and Bae shares rose 11p to close at 964p. Lagardère shares rose 70 centimes to 124 francs on the news. Nick Judge, engineering analyst at NatWest Securities, said the deal was a "good move", but warned that Europe's defence industry had much to do before it had consolidated enough to match US competitors. He predicted

there would be significant cost savings from the Bae deal with Matra in research and development costs and the elimination of overlapping missile interests. Lagardère is bidding for Thomson against the French engineering group Alcatel. Mr Judge warned that the French government would be concerned at the prospect of a foreign company holding a large shareholding in French defence interests, despite the

## Saturday Notebook

### It is hardly a Budget bonanza



Mark Milner

**A**BOROUGH may have been fighting them on the Spanish beaches this week, but at home it has been a good week for Conservatives, at least as far as the economy is concerned. The latest crop of data shows inflationary pressures still weak — although the Bank of England is worried about the future. Unemployment has fallen, again. The icing on the cake, however, came yesterday with the news that the Government's finances were in the black to the tune of £1.66 billion last month.

It is impossible to construct a compelling case for tax cuts from men just as it is difficult to make a case for another cut in interest rates from the rest of the week's data. Then again, those members of the Conservative Party, like John Redwood, who are pressing for tax cuts are more concerned with the numbers in the opinion polls, rather than in the PSBR calculations or the latest round of economic statistics.

### Flawed defence

**B**RITISH Aerospace and Lagardère are no doubt right to claim that the decision to combine their missile businesses reflects the changing nature of defence procurement in Europe. Nor is Europe the only place where the defence industry is being reformed.

## Sumitomo chief 'happy' with deals

Patrick Donovan  
City Editor

**A** SENIOR Sumitomo Corporation director gave a personal guarantee that all his business was "legitimate" after being asked by the London Metal Exchange to respond to evidence of irregular trading deals which eventually resulted in the Japanese company's discovery of a \$1.8 billion copper-dealing loss.

request, I, on behalf of Sumitomo Corporation, hereby confirm that Sumitomo Corporation is and will be able to fully meet all its financial and delivery commitments on its existing and future LME contracts and your members for prompt and forward delivery." It continued: "In addition, we would like to emphasise that it is our corporate policy to perform our business undertakings in good faith and fully in compliance with laws and sound international business practices."

The correspondence supports the LME's insistence that it took seriously warnings by a US broker in 1991 that Sumitomo trader Yasuo Hamanaka had carried out suspect metal deals. Mr Hamanaka was sacked when Sumitomo announced the huge copper-dealing losses earlier this summer.

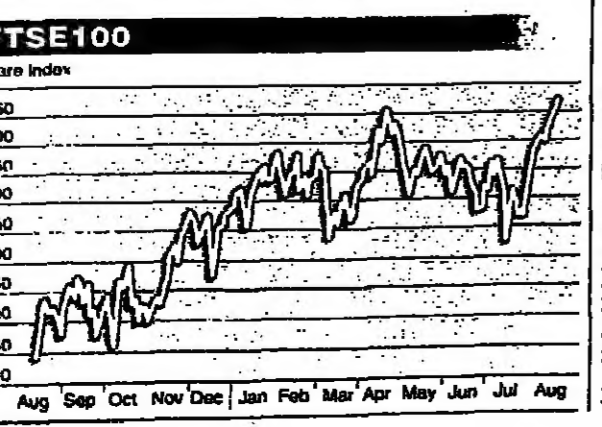
"We are confident that our present copper business with regard to LME's transaction is legitimate and in accordance with the regulations of LME." It concluded: "The function of LME is essential to the global copper transactions and we hope that you will maintain free market for the benefit of all participants." The circumstances surrounding the Sumitomo losses are currently the subject of an international investigation by regulators and police.

## Tax cut talk as market peaks

Tony May

**T**HE London stock market reached an all-time peak yesterday as Government borrowing figures fuelled talk of pre-election tax cuts. The FTSE 100 share index which measures the strength of the Britain's top 100 companies, jumped 35.5 points to close at 3872.9, easily beating the previous record set in April. It has risen 4 per cent more than 150 points — in the past month and stands 12 per cent higher than it did a year ago.

However, stock market watchers are not convinced that the party will last. Analysts said that nobody could see what was sustaining the current rally on Wall Street, and warned that if prices fell sharply in New York, London would drop too. Robert Buckland, UK equity strategist at HSBC James Capel, said: "I don't think that the good underlying fundamentals for the UK corporate sector can be pulled away."



## Thorn EMI puts on £210m

### Demerger vote opens door to bidders, writes Lisa Buckingham

**M**ORE than £210 million was added to the stock market value of Thorn EMI after shareholders yesterday voted in favour of demerging the company. Shares rose by 49p to £18.38, putting a price tag of nearly £8 billion on the company at the end of its last day's trading as a single entity.



Sir Colin Southgate... pointing the way to demerger

PHOTOGRAPH: GARRY WEASER

Part of the excitement rests on the possibility of a takeover for EMI — the records, music publishing and retail division — although chairman Sir Colin Southgate yesterday denied holding any substantive talks with potential predators.

£3.5 million, based on last year's remuneration package. The chairman yesterday defended the exercise of almost all his share options this week — at a nominal profit of more than £5 million. Sir Colin, who earned more than £750,000 last year, said he had sold half the options in order

to be able to pay for exercise of the rest, which he is holding as ordinary shares. Analysts reckon that shares in Thorn — whose businesses include Radio Rentals and Rent-A-Center in the US — could start to trade at about 40p, while EMI could top £13.90.

## Uprooted director sues florist for £100,000-plus

### Ian King on a Jersey boardroom row that has blossomed into legal action

**F**LYING Flowers, the Jersey-based mail-order florist, has been served with a writ by its former director, Christopher Body, who was dismissed by the group earlier this month. Mr Body, who is claiming breach of contract, is demanding between £100,000 and £200,000 in compensation. His employment with Flying Flowers was terminated last week after the company held a board meeting to discuss the matter.

any compensation to Mr Body — who was director of the group's Bellbourne subsidiary — because it had not believed he had a legal right to any. He added: "We felt we had a valid reason. We know what he did, and he knows what he did, and if he pursues this matter through the courts, we will be forced to say what it was."

The dispute is understood to centre on Clark and Spear, a houseplants distribution business which was sold by Mr Body to Flying Flowers for £260,000 earlier this year. It is alleged that Mr Body — who joined Flying Flowers when he sold Bellbourne to the company in January 1985 — settled payments owed by Clark and Spear from Bellbourne accounts, one week before the business was due to become part of Flying Flowers.

## News in brief

### Wickes strives to make repairs

Wickes, the troubled DIY retailer, took another step towards its rehabilitation yesterday when it named Bill Hoskins, former finance director at Laporte, as its new finance chief. Mr Hoskins replaces Stuart Stradling, who will step down after overseeing an inquiry into accounting discrepancies, which earlier this year led to the resignation of chairman and chief executive Henry Sweetbaum. Meanwhile, Wickes moved to reassure investors that the business continued to run smoothly and that UK sales were running ahead of the same time last year.

### Coopers coughs up

Coopers & Lybrand, the US accountancy firm, is to pay out \$80 million in settlement of litigation in connection with its role as auditor to Maxwell Communication Corp, administrators to the company said. The settlement, to be paid out in October, is in connection with Coopers' audit of the year to March 1991 accounts of Macmillan Inc, a former US subsidiary of MCC, and

relates to the removal of shares in Berlitz International Inc from Macmillan Inc's control to private companies controlled by Robert Maxwell.

### Names consider appeal

Names who are dissatisfied with Lloyd's of London's £3.2 billion rescue plan are considering whether to seek leave to appeal against a judge's rejection of their legal challenge. With less than two weeks to go before the August 28 deadline for acceptance of the insurance market's package, the 1,375 members of the dissenting Paying Names Action Group (PNAG) have until 11am on Monday to apply to the Court of Appeal for leave. Any appeal hearing would have to begin by Wednesday.

### Insurance takeover

Takeover activity at Lloyd's of London continued yesterday with the announcement that Cox Insurance was to be bought by Christopher Pearson Health Group. The merger would form the fourth-largest managing agency group at Lloyd's, with underwriting capacity of \$75 million. Analysts estimate the deal could cost Cox between \$40 million and \$60 million.

